

THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

REGISTERED No. 22.

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY.

VOLUME XXV.
NUMBER 9.

CALCUTTA:—MONDAY, MARCH 4, 1878.

Per Annum in Advance.
TOWN.....11-8.
MOFUSSIL.....13-4.

THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 25TH FEBRUARY.

BABU KALLYPROSUNNO Dey's sketch of the official career of the Hon'ble Ashley Eden contains the following English translation of a popular song about Sir John Peter Grant rendered by Mr. O.C. Dutt:

When the grim messengers of Death, the Planters one and all,
Brought utter ruin down upon the peasants of Bengal,
'Twas then that to their rescue Grant and high-souled Eden
Came.
And sternly put the tyrant down, and stopped their deeds of shame!

Condemning thus even Englishmen, while for an alien race,
They nobly showed their sympathy, nor cared for pride of place
O! rare, indeed, such sterling men, and rare it is to find,
Such sense of Justice and of Right such loftiness of mind!
As rain-charged cloud and spreading stream revive a stricken land.

So these great men saved thousands from the white oppressor's hand.

WE ARE REQUESTED to publish the following memorandum of the Principal of the Krishnagar College anent a case, which we noticed some time back:

"I have received permission from the Director of Public Instruction to readmit into the Collegiate School the two students who were punished last term for bribing a servant to steal Examination papers. The students will accordingly be allowed to re-enter their names. In order to make known the opinion entertained by the higher authorities on this case, an extract from the Director's letter is subjoined.

"The examples that you give are, in my judgment, sufficient to support the position that, a low tone of discipline and of morality has recently prevailed in the College and Collegiate School. The frequent recurrence of actions, either insubordinate or subversive of discipline, appears to show that such actions were not isolated instances of school-boy contumacy, but that they were supported by the general sentiment of the students. In reference to the particular offence of dishonesty at examinations, when you found that light punishments were of no avail in checking a most serious and growing evil, you were fully justified in warning the classes, as you did, that you would treat with the utmost severity any repetition of the offence. When, therefore, a flagrant example of this form of dishonesty was brought to your notice one which involved, not only premeditated craft, but the special turpitude of tempting a servant to commit a crime for which he narrowly escaped imprisonment, I cannot regard your actions as bringing the offenders within reach of the law as other than justifiable. You say rightly, 'for ordinary offences, I think an appeal to the police is the very last means to be adopted,' but I cannot deny that both the case itself, and the antecedent circumstances which gave it importance, were of a quite exceptional character. I am therefore able to give my full support to the action which you have taken.

"The offenders have been punished, and have expressed penitence for their offence. That offence is one the imputation of which a boy of ordinary honesty and healthy feeling should repudiate and abhor. But I am willing to allow reasonable weight to your contention that much may have been due to the contagious influence of bad example, and to other causes besides moral depravity. I therefore authorise you to readmit the two expelled students to the Krishnagar Collegiate school. The penalties which they have suffered will, I trust, have a salutary effect not only on themselves, but on all those whether students or their friends, whose minds have been disturbed by recent events. They should remember that the maintenance in a school of a high standard of morality and discipline is that which best secures one of the chief ends of education."

We have not space for more extracts. All's well that ends well. The Director admits that "much may have been due to other causes than moral depravity." And it was this consideration which led us to think that it was a school-boy prank, which might have been fitly punished without an appeal to the Police. But we do not wish to discuss the matter further.

WE UNDERSTAND that the Secretary of State has sanctioned the revised estimates for the Tirhoot Railway. The total of these estimates amounts to Rs. 55,96,882, but from this has been deducted a sum of nearly Rs. 13,00,000, as representing that portion of the outlay on the temporary famine line, which was subsequently found to be incapable of being permanently utilized, and Rs. 3,00,000 as the cost of the ferry over the Ganges. The balance representing the cost of the permanent railway itself is about Rs. 39,90,000. The cost per mile, therefore, is about £5,000. This calculation is simply a paper statement. When the Railway was undertaken as a famine work, it was intended that it should be a permanent work. Apparently the enormous sum of thirteen lacs of rupees has been thrown away.

WE UNDERSTAND that on the subject of the destination of candidates selected for the covenanted Civil Service, the Secretary of State is in accord with the opinion lately expressed by the Government of India that every Civil servant is bound to serve wherever the Government at any period of his career requires him to go. The Government of India will,

therefore, probably lay this down as a general rule, which will be communicated to the candidates at the time of selection. The Secretary of State is further of opinion that no Civil Servant should be sent to outlying provinces until he has passed his departmental examination in his own Presidency. In the ordinary course, therefore, appointment to the Lower Provinces of Bengal includes liability to serve in Assam and Burma—to the North West Provinces and the Punjab, liability to serve in Oudh and Sind—to Madras, liability to serve in Burma, and to Bombay, liability to serve in the Central Provinces.

IN COMMENTING on the Report of the Director of Agriculture and Commerce in the North West Provinces and Oudh on Trade with Tibet, forwarded by the Government of India, we understand that the Secretary of State entirely approves of the policy determined on by the Government of India of encouraging this trade by allowing the importation of Salt from Tibet to remain untaxed.

ORDERS have been passed by the Government of India to be published restricting the insertion of private advertisements in the Official Gazette to necessary cases, also, directing that the Government notices of importance to the public, and of such a character that the public interests demand an extended publicity, shall be inserted as advertisements in the public newspapers as well as in the Official Gazette. Many classes of notices are specified in the Government orders as coming under this category, such as Postal, Telegraphic, and Marine notices, and notices of sales or tenders. This resolution redresses a long standing grievance of the Press.

TUESDAY, 26TH FEBRUARY.

WE HAVE ALREADY announced that Major Bradford has been appointed to succeed Mr. Lyall in Rajputana. Major Henderson succeeds Major Bradford as Superintendent of Operations for the suppression of Thuggee. Mr. Henvey will probably succeed Major Henderson in Kashmir.

ORDERS have been passed by the Government of India for a slight alteration in one of the rules of the Telegraphic Department, by which a limit of 200 words has been assigned to single telegrams; this limit is to be raised for Press telegrams to 500 words.

WE UNDERSTAND that in consideration of his long and meritorious services to Government extending over a period of 42 years, the Government of India have concurred in the recommendation of the Financial Department that Mr. Twalling the Registrar of that Department be allowed to retire on a pension of Rs. 400 a month. Mr. Twalling's substantive pay is Rs. 700 per month.

BY RECENT accounts received from Kashmir it appears that there is very serious scarcity in the whole of the mountainous tract between the provinces of Jammu and Kashmir extending from Chihbal on the east to Kishtwar and Dhadwar on the west. The construction of the Telegraph line between Jammu and Srinagar has, we understand, been delayed in consequence of the difficulty of procuring supplies.

SOMETIME in the course of last year certain representations were made to the Government of India regarding the kidnapping or sale of children of British subjects for export to Nepal, with the object, it was said, of holding them in slavery. Enquiry into the matter was instituted through the officers of the district concerned, from which we learn that nothing like a system of kidnapping or sale exists, though of-course cases of the kind may occasionally occur.

WE UNDERSTAND that the Secretary of State has sanctioned the revised estimates amounting to Rs. 1,93,14,793 for the Northern Bengal State Railway, being an average rate of Rs. 80,144 per mile for 241 miles. The main line North of the Ganges is metre gauge, while the section south of the river is to be constructed on the 5 ft. 6 inch gauge and will probably have to be worked by the Eastern Bengal Company.

CABUL has this year been visited with exceptionally heavy falls of snow. In many places the streets were impassable, and the houses blocked up to such an

extent that the inhabitants could only enter and leave them through the roof. Considerable loss of property in cattle and goods has occurred. Great distress is also reported to prevail in the districts of Huzara and Ghuzni owing to the severity of the winter.

WEDNESDAY, 27TH FEBRUARY.

LITERATURE IN VICTORIA.—At the recent conference of Librarians, held in London, Sir Redmond Barry gave an account of the literary resources of Victoria. The total population is 880,000. There are in Melbourne, the public library of Victoria, with 90,000 volumes; the library of Parliament, with 40,000; the University, with 16,000; the Supreme Court, with 13,000; and its branches with 4,000. The total number of volumes thus collected was 163,000 in the twenty-four years since 1853, when the libraries were all first established.

A MISSIONARY thus writes to the *Lucknow Times* about the distress prevailing in Northern India:

"In some recent tours through the Moradabad and Budaon districts I have seen things that make my heart ache. There is a great deal of suffering among the poor people. Very few people eat more than one meal per day, and that is not a good one either in quality or quantity. A native catechist said that no person in his village had eaten anything but sag for five days. Little children are seen rubbing the unripe heads of barley, and parching the kernels in the fire, others eat grass; anything to quench their hunger. All these efforts to prolong life by eating unripe grain or vegetables must surely result in death before the ripe grain can be gathered. The thin cheeks, shrunken calves and feeble steps of many now proclaim that they are marked as the victims of death. Many are committing petty offences in order to be lodged in jail, knowing that there they will be fed. There is little panic and no fleeing from villages, as before the rain came, for now the people have crops to stay by and watch. They cannot flee, they must stay; they have no money, and many are dying. Men are ready to give away their children if they can be fed. Some of the children are so weak from starvation that on being received by Missionaries they have to be fed for days on milk and beef tea."

"A Native Catechist in Budaon district says that in the town in which he lives two or three hundred Chamars—men, women and children have died a whole Mohalla being almost depopulated. On being questioned minutely, he said that he had seen two and three dead at a time; that the people said that on some days two died, on other three or four; that a portion of a field near that Mohalla was filled with the graves of these unfortunate people. He also said that a report of the number who daily die is written and forwarded to the thana."

It is whispered among the people that the local Officers who urge the Government to help these poor suffering people are persistently disregarded by some Officers "away up," who having written and bound up the statement in the best Government Red Tape, there is to be no Famine and no Relief Works in the N. W. P., are unwilling to see their economical prophecies fulfilled. If, however, some measures are not immediately adopted to give a little help, there will be great loss of life during the next six weeks, and still greater in the beginning of the harvest when the poor people, weakened and diseased by fasting, will eat to satiety half-ripened grain.

And Sir George Couper sits with folded hands!

HERE IS a hint for the Indian Government. The Chinese Government is selling dignities with a view to form a Famine Fund. Already the Imperial authorities have instructed the Board of Revenue to make out 2,000 blank certificates, and forward them to the Governor of Shansi, in order that he may open up this new trade in titles without delay. Referring to this measure of the Chinese Government the *London Examiner* says:

"This project offers to the Indian statesman a valuable hint. Like Northern China, India is famine-stricken. India has also difficulty in raising taxes to pay the costs of a pauperised Empire. The commonest axiom of the Indian finance is that 'our brilliant dependency cannot bear another farthing of taxation—but that, it must be allowed, applies rather to the India of the rich, not to the India of the poor, who are promptly mulcted when occasion arises. Still it may be admitted that the upper and official class in India cannot be subjected to an increase of compulsory taxation, for the simple reason that they have the power to kick against any new imposts. But does not this scheme of the intelligent Governor of Shansi suggest something? Can the upper class in India not be got to pay voluntary tribute? Have our rulers in the East Indies not woefully overlooked the fiscal fruitfulness of snobbery?"

We commend the above to our Government.

IT APPEARS that Professor Bell is not to have all the credit of inventing the telephone. Another electrician, Professor Dolbear, has shewn sufficient evidence of priority to be admitted, in America, to a share in the proceeds, and it is said that the two inventors are now working in concert.

A VERY important discovery in Chemistry has taken place of late. Oxygen, Hydrogen, and Nitrogen, hitherto reckoned as the permanent gases, have been successfully liquified. This astounding feat was achieved by Mr. Plequet of Paris. He constructed an ingenious apparatus by which a pressure

of 800 atmospheres was applied to Oxygen in the lowest temperature attainable, and in this condition the acid-generating gas was transformed into flowing liquid. His procedure was adopted by Mr. Cailletet and he succeeded in liquifying Hydrogen and Nitrogen. Most important consequences are predicted by chemists and physiologists to follow from this discovery.

A REPORT has reached Hongkong from Moukdema that the Russians have removed the boundary stone between their own and Chinese territory in Mongolia some 500 inland without permission, and that the Chinese officials, on whom the duty of looking after the boundary devolved, have not dared to report the matter to Pekin. So Russia has an eye upon China.

THURSDAY, 28TH FEBRUARY.

WE ARE informed that the Secretary of State has lately received a communication from the Foreign Office forwarding a communication from the French ambassador at the court of St. James's, expressing the thanks of the French Government for the assistance rendered by Lord Lytton to the administration of the French settlements in this country, by permitting the importation of food-grains free of duty during the famine.

WE ARE informed that the Secretary of State has approved of the directions issued by the Madras Government that no extension should be made of the reserve system in tank beds in Tinnevely, and that cattle should not be excluded from the Tanks when they are the ordinary grazing lands of the adjacent villages.

THE REPORT on the administration of the Salt Department in the Lower Provinces of Bengal, for 1876-77, shews that the net results of the Salt revenue of the year, in comparison with the previous year's return, is an increase of Rs. 3,48,731. The imports by sea during the year showed a marked decrease in comparison with those of 1876-77. The explanation of this decrease which occurred in the ports both of Calcutta and Chittagong, and most marked in Calcutta, is that the importations of 1874-75 were abnormally excessive. The quantity of salt manufactured during the year was 407,974 maunds or 45,091 maunds in excess of the manufacture of the previous year. In the sales of manufactured salt there was a decrease to the extent of 18,817 maunds, and of duty to the amount of Rs. 36,373. A decrease in the sales for consumption in saliferous tracts, amounting to 19,822 maunds, is ascribed to the prevalence of cholera and the action of the cyclone in the district of Backergunge, Chittagong and Noakally. There was an increase of 40.2 per cent in the number of cases brought to trial for offences against the salt laws and of 51 per cent in the number in which convictions were obtained. The percentage of convictions to the cases tried was 96.5, which is regarded as satisfactory.

DR. WALL has lately furnished a contribution to science in the shape of a report on certain experiments he has been making with respect to snake poisoning. Dr. Fayer thinks highly of Dr. Wall's labors and trusts he will be permitted to continue his investigations which must lead to good results. The Secretary of State has also expressed his appreciation of Dr. Wall's labours.

THE REPORT of the Director of Public Instruction, Bombay, on the operations of the Educational Dept. in that Presidency during the year 1876-77 is not favorable as regards general results, the retrograde character of the operations is probably due to the famine. There was a decrease of 72 Government schools caused chiefly by a falling-off in primary and night schools to the extent of 59. The report represents the Elphinstone high school in a prosperous condition, the number of scholars having increased from 606 to 673, and the fee receipts from Rs. 21,730 to Rs. 25,000. On the other hand the number of candidates for matriculation in the University fell off from 1,269 to 1,154, and the number passing the examination was reduced from 454 to 203. This result is accounted for by the greater severity of the examination, and the Secretary of State in remarking on this notable decrease, while believing that the gradual elevation of the standard is an object which should be kept in view, trusts "that the examiners look only to the degree of merit displayed and not to adventitious circumstances." In the first examination in art only 29, as against 69 in the previous year, passed, while the number who passed the B. A. examination increased from 18 to 40. Amongst the collegiate institutions the most marked success of the year is that exhibited by the Poona Engineering College, which sent no less than 70 passed students to the Public Works and Engineering Departments. Progress is also exhibited in female education; and education among Mahomedans has made some

advance. In the Government and other schools connected with the Department the number of Mahomedan pupils has increased from 26,297 to 27,263.

THE OFFICERS of the Government of India will close at Calcutta on April the 5th and re-open at Simla on April the 22nd.

WE ARE GLAD to learn that Mr. J. D. Gordon C. S. I. has accepted the Chief Commissionership of Mysore.

FRIDAY, 1ST MARCH.

THE LATEST REPORTS from Madras show that the numbers on relief as a whole are tending to increase, whilst the prices both of rice and dry grains are slightly rising and the import trade is inactive. This inactivity is doubtless caused by the uncertainty of the trade as to where the demand of rice will come from, whether from the South, the North or the West. There is, however, believed to be no doubt that high prices will prevail over large areas in the Madras Presidency, at all events until the next Kharif; and it is thought that imports will become more active as soon as this is fully appreciated by the trade.

WE LEARN that the Famine Commissioner in Mysore after a tour through the worst part of Tamkur reports that the crops have been better than is generally believed, and that there are no signs of panic or wandering or of emaciation except in a few instances. In fact, considering that if even the crop had been a bumper one there must still have been severe distress amongst the poorest classes, there seems to be no ground for dissatisfaction. The country is believed to be well in hand, and fairly secured against further serious suffering.

IN NEXT WEDNESDAY'S Legislative Council Sir Edward Bayley will present the Select Committee's Report on the Arms and Ammunition Bill. The Hon'ble Mr. Hope will move that the Reports on the Forests Bill be taken into consideration and that the Bill be passed; also the consideration of the Select Committee's Report on the Sea Customs Bill and the subsequent passing of the Bill.

WE LEARN from the Bombay papers that the following native gentlemen of Bombay proceed to England in the beginning of the month for the purpose of visiting the Paris Exhibition and travelling on the continent:

The Hon. Nacoda Mohamed Ali Rogay, Messrs. Cummos Sulliman, Dady Manockjee Limjee, Framjee Dushaw Petit, Pherozesha Meiwajee, Shapoorjee Jeejeejee Dorabjee Cursetjee Shroff, Nowrojee Nusservanjee Wadia, Bhicajee Nowrojee Pallenjee and Rastomjee Nusservanjee Khory, M. D.

THE LAST number of the *Indian Charivari* is very readable. Mr. G. W. Kellner, C.S.I., is the subject of the Album portrait. Buck gives an appreciative notice of his career. Mr. Kellner is a noble example of self-exertion in this country.

WE LEARN from a correspondent of the *Shomprakash* that a number of men resembling Moguls in appearance plundered Bhahadurgunge in Purnia on the evening of the 7th instant last. They took away with them a number of cattle horses and other domestic animals and about 500 rupees. According to another version the robberies have not ceased.

A CORRESPONDENT from Buddengunge in the district of Burdwan writes to us as follows:

"On Saturday the 12th February at about 2 P.M. a fire broke out in the cowshed of a villager of Koyapat. A large concourse of people gathered together to put out this fire, but owing to a strong wind, before they could succeed in smothering it out, it spread far and wide, taking in its grasp three villages, Koyapat, Buddengunge and Foolbooye, consumed at least 496 thatched houses and the loss may be estimated at about 50,000 rupees. Fortunately no lives were lost. The matter of regret is that the people in these parts have not yet been able to recover from the effects of the cyclone of 1874—some of them had only lately rebuilt their houses; again malarious fever has this year prostrated many. The suffering of the people is incredible: having lost their all, they are obliged to lie in open air with the piece of bare wearing clothing for the covering."

Can't some assistance be given to the poor sufferers from some of the local funds?

A CORRESPONDENT writes to us as follows:

"Yesterday a strange accident occurred in Babu Sreenath Dass' Barack at Bowbazar where some dozen students staying in the lodging after supper fell into a state of complete insensibility. The adjoining members of the lodging house hearing this came to help, but seeing them insensible sent them over to Medical College Hospital, where the officers gave them much help, which enabled them to recover after 4 or 5 hours."

We hear that it was dhatura poison which played the mischief.

WE ARE informed that the Raja of Bijni and Babu Tejkrum Choudhry of Assam have subscribed Rs. 300 in aid of the fund for the proposed deputation to England for the agitation of the Civil Service question.

WE ARE glad to be able to state that the appeal which we issued last week for contributions to the

Lokenathpore Defence Fund has met with a generous response. We have received the following names of subscribers:

	Rs.
Honorable Maharaja Jotendro Mohua Tagore.....	50
Raja Komul Krishna Bahadur.....	50
Kumar Kantichander Sing.....	50
Babu Joykishen Mookerjee.....	50
Maharaja Narendra Krishna.....	32
Raja Degamber Mittra.....	32
Kumar Debendra Mullick.....	32
Babu Juddal Mullick.....	32

We shall be glad to receive other names.

SATURDAY, 2ND MARCH.

THE MADRAS FAMINE Report for the week ending the 26th February, shows an increase of 1944 in numbers on relief works, and a decrease of 3775 in numbers on gratuitous relief. The net total now remaining is 282,600. The prices of rice and dry grains are rising slightly, but generally importations at present inactive.

MAJOR IMPEY from Rajputana will succeed Mr. Henvey in Nepal and Major Evans Smith from Hyderabad will succeed Major Impey.

WE ARE glad to learn that Moulvi Abdul Lutfi Khan Bahadur has received a *firman* from the Sultan of Turkey, bestowing upon him the insignia of the third class of the Order of the Medjidi, which has been forwarded to him with a letter from the late Grand Vizir, Ibrahim Edham Pasha, through the Turkish Consul General located at Bombay. This reward is in recognition of the exertions of the worthy Moulavi in organizing the Turkish Relief Fund.

FROM THE District of North Arcot it is reported that the North East monsoon was a failure as regards the rainfed tanks in many of the taluqs, and that consequently nearly all such tanks are now completely dry. As distress is likely to continue on account of the deficient rainfall in a large portion of the district, it will probably be necessary to carry on the relief operations for some time to come in those parts.

AN EXAMINATION of the accounts connected with the expenditure in one of the Madras Relief Camps has brought to light a series of frauds carried on in a most systematic and daring manner. To prevent overcharge in the valuation of the food, condiments, &c., supplied to the camp by the contractors, it had been ordered that receipts should be issued daily by the superintendent of the Camp to the contractor for the amounts received on that day, and that on the production of these receipts the Taluq Sheristadar, a Deputy Tahsildar, should settle the prices to be paid according to the price list kept in the Taluq. In the particular case referred to, it was found that this work had been delegated to a subordinate, who, in collusion with the contractor had systematically altered the receipts so as to show larger quantities of goods supplied. Thus when the Camp accounts show that 173½ measures of rice had been received, the vouchers in the taluq (on which payment had been made) showed 673½ measures; and in the same way 88 becomes 288; 77 becomes 277, and so on. The case will of course be fully investigated.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London, 24th February.—Russian head-quarters have been transferred to San Stephanos on the East Coast of Roumelia, slightly north of Midia.

24th.—The Russians have occupied Piro and Akpalauka. The Servians have protested, and are retreating on Nisch. The following are the fresh Russian peace conditions. The Bulgarian Tributary State to extend from the Danube to the Balkans, and from the Black Sea to the Servian frontier, and will comprise the valley of the Maritza, Adrianople excepted, and the greater part of Thrace and Macedonia. A Russian Commission will be appointed to superintend the Bulgarian State for two years, whilst 50,000 Russian troops will occupy it for the same period. Servia and Montenegro will be augmented. As regards Roumelia, Russia is authorized to give her the Dobrukscha instead of Bessarabia. The passage of the Dardanelles is to be prohibited to all war vessels but free navigation is accorded to Merchant vessels even in war time. The indemnity demanded by Russia is fourteen hundred millions of roubles, or about £200,200,000, to cover which Turkey cedes six iron-clads, Kars, Batoum, Bayazid, and Ardahan, and the territory comprised, and pays forty millions sterling in bonds and eighty-one millions in a sinking fund, the interest of which is guaranteed, to Russia by the tribute payable to the Porte by Bulgaria and Egypt. Russia also receives the tribute paid by Bulgaria and Egypt to the Porte, besides other minor payments.

25th.—A large meeting was held in Hyde Park yesterday by the party in favor of peace which was however scattered by an immense counter demonstration supporting the Government against Russia. The Majority of the London papers regard the Russian peace conditions as excessive and state that they will imperil the maintenance of European peace. The Grand Duke Nicholas with two regiments has arrived at San Stefanos which the Turks have evacuated. A Russian division has arrived at Tcheloned Tehekmedji and San Stefanos. Austria is increasing her armaments.

26th.—Prince Gortschakoff is ill. Lord Lyons, the British Ambassador at Paris, will represent England at the coming conference. In the House of Lords, last night, Lord Derby, replying to a question respecting the revised Russian peace conditions, said that the Government had received no information, confirming the peace conditions which had been published, but that if it was true the Russian demanded the tribute paid by Egypt to the Porte, that matter would re-

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, MARCH 4, 1878.

THE TAXATION MEETING.

THE PUBLIC meeting held at the Town Hall on Saturday last was a great success. About two thousand persons were present and the greatest enthusiasm prevailed. The elite of native society were present, and the resolutions were moved and seconded by the representatives of different sections of the community. The speeches were to the point, sensible, temperate, and replete with facts and figures, the elucidation of which evoked loud and enthusiastic cheers. The Sheriff was in the chair; the meeting lasted for about three hours. We give the Resolutions below :

I.

Proposed by Raja Degamber Mitter C.S.I.

Seconded by Maharaja Narendra Krishna :-

That in the deliberate opinion of this meeting the excessive poverty of the mass of the population is the chief cause of the widespread suffering, which results from periodical drought and scarcity; and that it is imperatively necessary, therefore, that the growing demand upon the Indian Exchequer for ordinary wants of the State and for insurance against famine should be provided by judicious retrenchments and economical administration, without permanently adding to the burdens of the people by further heavy taxation.

II.

Proposed by The Hon'ble Kristodas Pal.

Seconded by Babu Joykissen Mookerjee :-

That it is apparent from the published statements and opinions of official and other authorities that, without any sacrifice of efficiency, great economy is practicable in Home Military charges and Local army expenditure of India, and that in the opinion of this Meeting the principle of joint-partnership on which the Home Military charges of this country are apportioned between it and England is opposed to law and equity.

III.

Proposed by Babu Surendranath Banerjee.

Seconded by Babu Damodar Das Burmans :-

That the enormous outlay on Public Works of all kinds since 1860-61 without adequate returns and commensurate benefits in many cases, has greatly strained the financial resources of the Indian empire; that reasonable and judicious economy in this as well as other branches of public expenditure is, in the opinion of this Meeting, calculated to bring about the desired equilibrium between income and expenditure.

IV.

Proposed by Kumar Kanti Chunder Sing.

Seconded by Nawab Amir Ali Khan Bahadur :-

That the following petition to the House of Commons be adopted and forwarded :
(We have summarized the petition in a separate article.)

V.

Proposed by Babu Judulal Mullick.

Seconded by Prince Ruhimooden :-

That a petition similar to the one already adopted be addressed and forwarded to the House of Lords.

VI.

Proposed by Kumar Debendra Mullick.

Seconded by Mr. Heerjeebhoy Manojkjee Rustomjee :-

That in order to carry out the Resolutions of this Meeting, to circulate the petitions for signature, and to make necessary arrangements for presenting the same to both Houses of Parliament, the following gentlemen be requested to form a Committee with power to add to their number :

Hon'ble Maharaja Jotendra Bahadur, L.L.D., C.I.E.	Babu Rajendralala Mitra, Rai Bahadur, L.L.D., C.I.E.
Maharaja Narendra Krishna Bahadur.	Newab Amir Ali Mir Mahomed Ali.
Raja Komul Krishna Bahadur.	A. M. Bose, Esq.
„ Degamber Mitter Bahadur, C.S.I.	Rev'd K. M. Banerjee, L.L.D.
„ Rajendra Mullick Bahadur	Manojkjee Rustomjee, Esq.
Babu Doorga Churn Law.	Babu Surendranath Banerjee.
„ Joykissen Mookerjee.	Hon'ble Kristodas pal, Rai Bahadur, C.I.E.

The Meeting contended that the people of this country are very poor, that with all their industry, thriftiness and patience they find it hard to make the two ends meet, and that the heavy taxes laid upon them trench upon the very means of their existence. But it is not enough to feel all this, or to say all this. The vast machinery of Government, which is bound up with the welfare of two hundred millions of human beings, must move, and it must have oil to grease its wheels. But the question is—cannot the machinery of Government move without crushing beneath the weight of taxation those, for whose benefit it exists and works? We are satisfied that the petition adopted at the meeting shews clearly and satisfactorily how money can be saved, and saved too without impairing the efficiency of administration, and thus further taxation avoided, and consequently substantial relief afforded to the poor tax-payers. The position which the Meeting took was this—reduction of expenditure and no further taxation; we have had enough of taxation since the transfer of the Government of India from

the East India Company of blessed memory to the Crown; while deeply grateful for the benefits which the direct rule of the Crown has conferred upon the country we can not deny, as was pointed out at the meeting, that it has been synonymous with taxation in various forms, imperial, provincial, and municipal, and as the fates would have it with this increase of taxation has come the increase of the sufferings of the people from Providential visitations!

The Meeting did not discuss the merits of an Income tax or a License tax, the scientific and ethical considerations, which render this tax preferable to that, or the politico-economic bearings of the one or the other. A tax by whatever name called cannot be sweet, in whatever form clothed cannot be attractive, however widespread cannot bring relief to the individual payer; it is like the bitter pill, which however sugared or gilded, tastes all the same. What the Meeting pointed out was that by following the sound rules of financial hygiene the Government might so establish the health of the national exchequer that it might do without the bitter pill altogether. Now, what was the course of financial hygiene which the Meeting recommended?—it was retrenchment and reform, retrenchment searching and comprehensive, reform thorough and effective. It is a common saying that when things come to the worst they mend themselves, and we fear our financial matters have come to that pass. Peace reigns through the length and breadth of the land, there are signs of progress and prosperity everywhere, the Government is active and the people are industrious and persevering, and yet a single blow is sufficient to strike down the people and plunge them into all the horrors of starvation and death, and to darken the financial prospects of Government and to throw it deep into debt and deficit! Could there be a more cheerless position for the Government and the people than this? Now, who can extricate us from this unhappy position? The Meeting justly said—it is the People of England, the real masters of India. It is they, who are really responsible in the eyes of God and man for the good government of this country, and if they can be roused to a due sense of their responsibility, India may be saved. In this instance we appeal to England for justice, not charity. We are convinced that if the English people come to know that undue burdens have been laid upon the poor people of India for the benefit of the English treasury, that charges have been thrown upon them which ought in law and equity to be borne by the English nation, that the accounts between England and India respecting military charges are adjusted with a high hand, in the interest of the superior power, they will not deny us justice. It is unfortunate for us that there is not sufficient information among the English people regarding India, and although there is a wide and generous sympathy among them, it does not take a practical shape because they do not know which direction it should take. We hope that the petition adopted at last Saturday's meeting will diffuse the necessary information, and if it be widely circulated, and if the electors of the United Kingdom be solicited by public addresses to take it into consideration, an intelligent sympathy may be awakened in their breasts.

THE PETITION TO PARLIAMENT.

THE PETITION to Parliament adopted at last Saturday's meeting points chiefly to two branches of public expenditure in which considerable economy is feasible, viz. Military charges and Public Works' charges. We are sorry we cannot make room for the petition *in extenso*, but will summarize these two important heads :

MILITARY CHARGES.

Immediately after the suppression of the Sepoy Mutiny, the late Lord Canning, who from his sad personal experiences was in the best position to form an accurate estimate of the military requirements of British India, declared that the military charges of India ought not to exceed £12,500,000 per annum; but they now amount to sixteen millions and a quarter. The House of Commons through the medium of a Select Committee on Indian Finance, about six years ago

quire England's serious consideration. A report is generally current, which states that Prince Charles of Romania will abdicate, if Russia persists in her claim to Bessarabia.

36th.—In the Commons Mr. Gathorne Hardy, replying to a question, said that negotiations were proceeding between the India Office and the War Office for the supply of seasoned soldiers for India. The treaty of peace between Russia and Turkey is not yet signed. The question as to whether the cession of six Turkish iron-clads to Russia be included in the peace conditions, is not yet settled.

25th.—In the House of Commons to-night, Mr. Gathorne Hardy, replying to a question, said that a first British army corps was ready for active service, and a second was being hastened on.

27th.—It is rumoured that Russia has sent an ultimatum to Turkey, insisting on signature of the treaty of peace without further delay.

25th.—Lieutenant-General Sir Henry Norman has been appointed a member of the Council of the Secretary of State for India. The Roumanians have occupied Widdin.

28th.—Lord Napier of Magdala will be the Commander-in-Chief of the British Expeditionary Force in the event of war with Russia, with Sir Garnet Wolseley as Chief of the Staff. Prince Gortschakoff is better.

28th.—A Brigade of Guards has been placed on the war footing. The Channel Squadron has arrived at Malta.

28th.—The question of boundaries of the new Bulgarian Tributary State is delaying the conclusion of the treaty of peace. In the House of Commons this evening Sir Stafford Northcote in reply to a question said that Government had as yet received no information concerning the peace conditions, but that if they were injurious to British interests, Government would take proper steps in vindication of those interests. It is stated that Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Steele, now commanding Aldershot district, will be the Commander of the second British Army Corps in the event of a war with Russia.

London, March 1st.—Lord Derby, replying to a question, said he had reason to believe that the treaty of peace would be signed to-morrow, and added that he hoped the news that Russia had abandoned her claim to the Turkish fleet was true. The Russians have occupied Erzeroum. Forty thousand Russian troops are at Bojuk, Tchekmedje, and San Stefanus.

Washington, 28th February.—President Hayes has vetoed the Bill rendering silver dollars legal tender. The message of the President to the Congress declares the Bill to be a grave breach of public faith. The Bill has, however, been passed on reconsideration by a majority of two-thirds of the Senate, thus setting aside Presidential veto. The House of Representatives have also passed the Bill which thus becomes law.

Vienna 26th February.—The Austro-Hungarian Government has decided to ask for a credit of six millions sterling for military preparations.

THERE WERE 276 deaths in Calcutta during the week ending the 23rd February last, of which 27 were from small-pox, 70 from fever, 32 from cholera, 46 from diarrhoea and dysentery, 15 from tetanus, 11 from asthma and the rest from other causes. Nine persons died from old age and 11 children were still-born.

"NALINI BHOOSHUN NATUK" is an episode of the period when Baktiar Khilji invaded Bengal, dramatized for the Native stage. The author is not unknown to fame. Shuralata Natuk, his previous production, elicited much commendation from the public. The characters in the new drama have been portrayed with skill. The songs are well-turned.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals : 1. Annual Report of the Administration of Land Revenue in Assam for 1876-77. 2. The History of the Year 1877, by James Mason. 3. Hitoishi—a Bengali Monthly, edited by Peary Mohun Rudra, Vol. II. No. 2. 4. The Educator Physical, Intellectual and Moral, (National Series) Nos. 1 to 5. 5. Journal of the National Indian Association No. 86, February 1878. 6. Madras Famine Report, No. 21. 7. Administration Report of the North Western Provinces for 1876-77.

WE ARE REQUESTED to state that Lady Lytton will preside at the annual examination of the Hooghly Girls' School.

LAST NIGHT the annual exhibition of Dr. Shourandramohan Tagore's Hindu School of Music was held at the Normal School premises, the Very Revd. Father Lafont presiding. The audience were regaled with the most exquisite music.

WE ARE sorry to record the death of Babu Guruchurn Dutt, a votary of the muses. He was a disciple of D. L. R. and wrote several poems, entitled the "School-hours," the "Leisure-hours," he was a man of unassuming manners and highly esteemed by those, who knew him.

WE HEAR that Colonel Keatinge, C.S.I., Chief Commissioner of Assam, will probably take leave in June next.

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, Bow-Bazar Street.)

LECTURE by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on Sunday the 10th instant, at 3 P. M.

Subject : The Electrophorus ; the Leyden Jar.

Admission Fee for non-subscribers—Annas 8 for a single Lecture : Or Rs. 3 in advance for 12 consecutive Lectures.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M. D.,
Honorary Secretary.

made an enquiry into the causes of the enormous increase of military expenditure, and it was rendered patent by the evidence adduced that this increase was primarily due to the amalgamation of the Indian army with the English army, effected, as the Right Honorable the Secretary of State stated in his evidence before the Select Committee referred to, against the unanimous opinion of Indian authorities. It is observable that the Home establishment of the British Army has not increased by reason of employment in India since 1857, of a larger British force than before the Mutiny; the whole strength of the British Army in 1856-57, was 272,519, including the troops serving in India, numbering 25,803, while the estimates for 1877-78 give a total of 196,372, including 62,652 men serving in India. The aggregate strength of the British Army has thus greatly diminished, and *a priori* it is natural to expect that there should be a corresponding reduction of expenditure. The troops serving in India constitute an important element in the military strength of England, but no consideration is shown to India on that ground. On the contrary, though the number of European troops employed in India has greatly decreased since 1858-59, the Home Military Charges of India have steadily increased. Thus:

Year.	Indian Depots.	Serving in India.	HOME MILITARY CHARGES.		
			Charges connected with the Indian Troop Transport.	Other Charges.	Total.
1858-59...	13245	70494	684576	3763362	4447938
1859-60...	15005	91897	254542	2863142	2947684
1860-61...	12057	79070		2860796	2860796
1861-62...	9888	60041		263473	263473
1862-63...	7824	75899		2139205	2139205
1863-64...	9349	72676		2073551	2073551
1864-65...	9347	72684		2288313	2288313
1865-66...	9109	71044		2252624	2252624
1866-67...	8983	68287	177021	2355895	2355895
1867-68...	9778	75206	573572	2331143	2331143
1868-69...	9889	64466	416938	2429645	2429645
1869-70...	9595	63707	289471	2380051	2380051
1870-71...	6385	62913	234780	2401880	2401880
1871-72...	6185	62577	260772	2337438	2337438
1872-73...	6257	62924	260772	244512	244512
1873-74...	6257	62924	311094	2401455	2401455
1874-75...	6257	62924	311094	2121473	2121473
1875-76...	6257	62924	299810	2193324	2193324
1876-77...	6257	62924	333786	2152463	2152463
1877-78...	6257	62924	321726	2431155	2431155
			268200	2904400	3172600

It will be observed from the above that in 1862-63 the number of men serving in India was 75,899 and the Home Military Charges amounted to £2,139,205, whereas in 1877-78, (estimates) the number of men is 62,652, or more than thirteen thousand less, the charges have increased to £4,160,600 or nearly more than 100 per cent. It is also noteworthy that although since 1869-70 there has been no material change in the number of men, rather a slight decrease, the Home Military Charges have increased by about £600,000.

The subject of the Home Military Charges of India has from time to time engaged the attention of Parliament and Her Majesty's Government. There have been no less than nine reports of Committees, viz., one in August 1859 on non-effective services, the second in 1861 on both effective and non-effective charges, the third and fourth in 1869, the fifth and sixth in 1870, the seventh in April 1872, the eighth by the Select Committee on East Indian Finance in 1874, and the ninth, dated 1st June 1875. But unfortunately the result to India of the labors of these Committees has been an increase of charge almost with each fresh report, though in consequence of the re-organization of the British forces there has been a considerable saving to the imperial exchequer.

The petitioners urge that the untoward results of the investigations by the nine Committees are owing to their having forgotten and the War Office having forgotten, that by law India is exempt from charges for home expenses purporting to be for British troops in India, unless it be clearly apparent that those expenses have entailed on the British Government an additional charge, which would not have been incurred, if India had not been occupied by a British force.

In 1873 the Government of India, then presided over by Lord Northbrook, pressed upon the Secretary of State the necessity of a revision of the Indian army charges in England on a fair and equitable basis. The injustice done to India will be at once apparent by a

reference to the recruiting charges. Thus under the East India Company the average for 10 years ending 1859 for all arms was £19. 14s. 10¹/₂d. whereas the recruiting charge since has been as follows:

166l.	13s.	1 ¹ / ₂ d.	for Cavalry.
63l.	8s.	5 ¹ / ₂ d.	„ Infantry.
78l.	14s.	8 ¹ / ₂ d.	„ Royal Horse Artillery.
59l.	2s.	11 ¹ / ₂ d.	„ Royal Artillery mounted.
58l.	9s.	3 ¹ / ₂ d.	„ Royal Artillery.

or an average of 79l. 3s. 10¹/₂d.

The amount for marching money and cost of conveyance of recruits was 16 per cent. on pay. The average number of recruits annually raised from 1865 to 1870 would appear to have been about 15,000. The average amount voted for marching money and conveyance of recruits was 11,866l., being about 15s. 6d. per recruit, while the charges made against India for the service are—for Cavalry £3 8s. 11¹/₂d., for infantry £1 19s. 9¹/₂d. Until 1860 the sum of £60,000 was paid from the Indian revenues in full discharge and satisfaction of all claims for retiring pay and pensions &c., of British troops serving in India, but the fixed payment was superseded in 1861 by a capitation rate of £3-10 a head on the number of the British troops actually serving in India as a contribution towards pension. The law under which this capitation rate was charged expired on the 31st March 1867, but the charge was nevertheless continued. It is now held by the War Office authorities that it is fair to divide every imperial charge at home between England and India in proportion to the benefit derived by each country from that charge. Whatever the merits of this principle in the abstract, its application shows that on every adjustment of accounts the charges have increased against India. In 1860-61 the furlough and pensionary allowances amounted to £939,089, while the same in 1877-78 amount to £1,331,000, though the number of men serving in India has as shewn above greatly decreased. The law has distinctly laid down that the revenues of India shall bear "all the expenses incurred, or to be hereafter incurred, for raising, transporting, and maintaining such forces as shall be sent to India for the security of the said territories and possessions, in addition to the forces now there." But the principle of joint-partnership now adopted regardless of law and equity has led to an enormous increase of charges against India.

Every change of system made has told against India. First the amalgamation of the English and Indian armies was followed by a considerable increase of the military charges of India. Formerly the troops were transported by private vessels, but now an Overland Troop Transport Service has been organized, and the result as usual has been increased expenditure, and this increase has taken place despite the considerable reduction of expenses for passage on merchant vessels including those of the P. and O. Company from the opening of the Suez Canal. The extra charge is estimated by competent authorities at £200,000 per annum.

The principle of joint-partnership referred to above, is the chief cause of the enormous increase of the Home Military charges of India while in respect of the rate of interest on the Indian debt, which was incurred for completing and consolidating England's conquest of India this country does not derive the slightest benefit from that joint-partnership, it being an one-sided partnership in English, not in Indian expenditure. This one-sided partnership was thus asserted by the late Viscount Cardwell, then War Minister, in a despatch of the War Office to the India Office: "Mr. Cardwell is clearly of opinion that the cost to this country of supplying British soldiers to maintain the establishment of European troops in India is by no means represented by the disbursements made on the several individual soldiers or recruits drafted to India." The despatch thus concluded:

"Mr. Cardwell is therefore of opinion that Indian revenues are justly liable to bear, in the widest sense of the term, their full proportion of the cost of the reserves of effective soldiers maintained in this country as well as their proportion of the cost of the whole machinery for drawing recruits from the civil population, and of training them for efficient service abroad by whatever organization or system may be adopted by Her Majesty's Government as being most conducive to the strength and efficiency of the British army."

His Grace the Duke of Argyll, the then Secretary of State, protested against this principle as "illegal" and "unjust." His Grace remarked that "it would be much nearer the truth to affirm that the Imperial Government keeps in India, and quarters upon the revenues of that country, as large a portion of its army as it thinks it can possibly be required to maintain its own dominion there; that it habitually treats that portion of the army as a reserve force, available for Imperial purposes; that it has uniformly detached European regiments from the garrison of India to take part in Imperial wars, whenever it has been found necessary or convenient to do so; and more than this, that it has drawn not less freely upon the native army of India, and towards the maintenance of which it contributes nothing, to aid it in contests outside of India, and with

which the Indian Government has had little or no concern."

The petitioners then refer to the law, which sanctions the application of the Indian revenue to charges on account of British troops serving in India. Act 21 & 22 Vict., Cap. 106, Section 55, provides that—"except for preventing or repelling actual invasion of Her Majesty's Indian possessions, or under other sudden and urgent necessity, the revenue of India shall not, without the consent of both Houses of Parliament, be applicable to defray the expenses of any military operation carried on beyond the extent frontiers of such possessions by Her Majesty's forces, charged upon such revenue." (2nd August 1858). Notwithstanding these distinct provisions of law England has within the last thirty-five years borrowed no less than seven times troops from India for the exigencies of imperial policy. Only on three occasions were re-inforcements sent from England to India, viz. for the Sutlej campaign of 1846, the Punjab campaign of 1849, and the Mutiny campaign of 1857-58. In every instance in which re-inforcements from England were sent to India the whole pay of the troops so sent was charged to India from the moment of their departure from the shores of England. On the other hand when India has been called on to provide troops for foreign expeditions it has been the general practice to charge the ordinary pay of the troops to the Indian exchequer during their absence from India. In the very last case (the Abyssinian War) the ordinary pay of the troops both European and Native, furnished to that expedition, was paid out of Indian revenues.

If a debtor and creditor account between England and India were made up shewing the services which Indian troops have rendered to England and the charges made against India contrary to law and equity, many millions would be found to be due to India. But the petitioners do not ask that old accounts should be re-opened—they pray that Parliament may be pleased to direct that the regulation of the military charges of India in relation to England may be henceforward based on the same broad principles of justice and equity, which guide the general scope of her government of this country, and with a due regard to the fact that the British military occupation of India enables England to keep her naval charges and home military expenses below the amount, which would otherwise be necessary. The petitioners say that they feel confident that the great English nation, if it had been aware of the circumstances, which have led to a progressively increasing burden upon the revenues of India on account of her military charges in England, would not have sealed with its sanction this long standing and persistent injustice to India, England and India though bound up by common ties of allegiance and interest cannot fairly be considered to be on equal terms of joint partnership in administrative matters. England is rich, India is poor; England is the governor, India is the governed; in England the people govern themselves, in India the people look to the British nation for protection and justice; in England Her Majesty's Government, as regards Indian affairs, has the voice potential, in India the Local Government, however solicitous for the welfare of the millions in its charge, must subordinate its views to the decisions of the Home Authorities.

Indeed, India labors under the perpetual disadvantage of having no voice in the apportionment of her military charges in England. Seeing how the present uncertainty and frequent increase in the demand of the War Office tend to upset the financial calculations and forecasts of the Government of India, the petitioners submit it would be preferable if a definite charge, which would reasonably be greatly below the present amount, were fixed with due regard to law and equity for a number of years for the Home military expenses of India.

Proposals have from time to time been made by the Government of India for the reduction of the Indian Army expenditure, but as usual without effect. In 1869 Lord Mayo proposed a reduction of the Native army in the three Presidencies. The petitioners briefly review the financial effect of the reductions, then and since proposed. The first proposal was submitted in a despatch No. 349, dated 4th October 1869, by the Government of India, to the Secretary of State for India. The proposal was to reduce the Bengal Army by one regiment of Native Cavalry, and four of Native Infantry with an addition, however, to the strength of the remaining regiments equivalent to the proposed reduction. By this plan it was intended to effect an annual saving of £27,210, without touching the effective strength of the Bengal Army. In the Madras Army it was proposed to reduce 6,266 men, with a yearly saving of £179,000. As regards the Native Army of Madras the petitioners urge that that army is considered by competent persons to be deficient in the essentials of military efficiency, and that a reduction in its numerical strength will not sensibly detract from the efficiency of the Native forces of British India. In the Bombay Army it was similarly proposed to reduce 2993 men with an annual saving of £77,433.

22,800,000, representing the Great Indian Peninsula, earned.....	5	3	0
3,094,000, representing the Eastern Bengal.....	5	16	0
7,847,000, representing the Bombay, Baroda and Central India.....	3	11	0
6,450,000, representing the Oude and Rohilkund, earned.....	2	9	0
3,766,100, representing the South India.....	2	7	0
10,104,000, representing the Madras.....	2	6	0
10,660,000, representing the Scinde, Punjab and Delhi.....	2	6	0
Surplus profits were earned to the amount of 833,170, viz:—			
By the East India (in both half years).....	651,664		
The Great Indian Peninsula (in the first half year).....	125,816		
The Bombay, Baroda, and Central India (in the first half year).....	20,343		
The Eastern Bengal (in the second half year).....	35,347		

The petitioners believe that these Railways may eventually become remunerative, but how far they are calculated to be so will they feel confident be made clear by the enquiry with which a Select Committee just appointed by the House of Commons have been charged. But they remark that on the principle the Government have hitherto provided for the execution of these works, the charge upon the revenue has increased with the extension of the works, and the Government of India has imposed this year an additional taxation to the amount of a million and a half ostensibly for meeting famine expenditure, but substantially and practically for increasing the general revenues for Public Works expenditure. The petitioners do not presume to say how the public works expenditure can be best regulated and controlled, but they are convinced that there is ample room for economy in the public works establishment, and an imperative necessity for Parliamentary control over this intractable branch of Indian expenditure. There is a wide feeling in this country that the chronic deficit in the Indian revenue is due to mistakes, waste and extravagance in the Public Works Department. Possibly the charge upon the general revenue may be saved, if due encouragement be offered to private enterprise.

THE TAXATION MEETING AT BOMBAY.

The License Tax Meeting at Bombay was a signal success. Some five thousand persons gathered on the occasion, and the greatest enthusiasm prevailed. The speeches were incisive and excellent. Mr. Maclean, the Editor of the *Bombay Gazette*, it would seem, spoke the best. He urged the necessity of appealing to Parliament. He contrasted the spirit of Lord Lytton and the local Government in regard to publicity. He said:

"I say that Lord Lytton, in his published speeches, has expressed the greatest desire to have the public opinion of India expressed about these financial measures, and that he has been one of the tests of their goodness, that he thinks they have really been accepted as good by the people of India. Now, the efforts of the local Government of Bombay have been directed towards keeping the public from expressing any opinion whatever upon the financial policy of the Government of India (hear hear and applause). The Chairman said in his opening speech that he thought this might be an accident, but for my part, I look upon it as only one, out of several signs we have had lately that the canker-worm of servility is eating into and destroying that noble independence of character and cultivated liberality of thought which were the distinguishing glory of the Indian Civil Service; (hear, hear) and the true source of that excellence which we were all so ready to recognise. It seems to be now the fashion, certainly with officials of the higher rank, to use all their exertions, not to carry out the wishes of the Viceroy as expressed in his public speeches, but to please what they believe to be his secret inclinations, and if Lord Lytton knew his own interests I think he might some time address to these over-zealous officials who have vainly tried to stifle public discussion in Bombay the reproach which King John addressed to Hubert, 'It is the curse of Kings to be surrounded by slaves who take their humours for a warrant' to do as they please. (Hear, hear and applause) Then, gentlemen, since we despair of getting redress from any branch of the Indian Government, I think we are only doing our duty in appealing to that great assembly which is the inviolable home of free discussion, which spreads its protection over the subjects of the British Empire in all parts of the earth, and from which alone Lord Salisbury and Lord Lytton themselves derive any authority which they possess. (Load applause).

Exactly so, if India wants justice, she must appeal to England. There is no hope for India in India. Officialism is too strong in India for public opinion to make due impression upon it. Besides, the Government of India is tied by the Home Government. However, anxious the Governor-General in Council to reduce expenditure and to afford relief to the tax-payers, he cannot, as regards those branches of expenditure, in which economy is practicable, move an inch without the authority of the Home Government. Appeal to Parliament is, therefore, an inevitability. After criticising the License tax Mr. Maclean went on:

In the concluding part of the petition a great constitutional question has been raised. I dare say a great many of you have read lately a remarkable letter by Sir Fitz-james Stephen in defence of the Government of India

against Mr. Bright, in which he said that English rule in India must be based on force and justice. We must all recognise the accuracy of that definition. We see the force every day around us, and we know that it is very strong. We can also readily admit that the administration of justice in the courts of this country is probably all that could be desired, that equality of all men before the law is secured; and that their lives and property are properly protected by the laws of India. But in the broader and political sense of the term, justice requires with regard to the taxation of the people that it should be so adjusted as to be consistent with the enlightened principle of modern commercial legislation, and proportionate to the capacities of the several classes of the population. You can only secure that end by giving some kind of representation in the Council of the Viceroy to the various interests existing in the country. There is no such representation at present and I do not think that in the present state of India it would be desirable to have a number of separate councils with representatives in them. But the principle is in theory acknowledged, for Lord Lytton spoke the other day of the representatives of all classes of the community in the Legislative Council of India. All that we ask then is that this theory should be carried into practice, and that the great centres of wealth, intelligence and industry, of the country should be allowed to send representatives to the Legislative Council of the empire to discuss bills of taxation and to enable the governing class to know what the wishes and the interest of the people really are (applause).

Nobly said. We wish all Anglo-Indians were animated with the same spirit. If the Anglo-Indians and the Indians were to make a joint appeal to England for a voice in the administration of the finances, we doubt not that they will be heard, if not to-day, at any rate at no distant day.

Mr. Kittredge spoke eloquently against the one-sidedness of the License tax, and the low minimum of the tax. He said, "Sir John Strachey says politely, 'Any one who says that a man with an income of Rs. 100 a year is poor does not know the facts.' That is a polite way of putting it (laughter) I say that any man who can come forward and say that there is no alternative to this iniquitous bill but the income-tax he does not know the facts, and I put it equally politely (much laughter). Now, His Excellency the Viceroy claims in support of his bill the local councils, the press, and the public. What ground is there for claiming the local Council of the Bombay Presidency? Its submissive obedience to orders from Calcutta! (Applause.) Was there one person to rise to say a word in defence of the principle of this bill? Not one. Was one word said which could defend that principle? Not one."

We regret that while so much eloquence was directed against the License tax, which is after all a flea-bite, no one laid sufficient stress on the necessity of no-taxation. On this subject we in Calcutta take a higher platform than our friends in Bombay did. We say that the Government should reduce expenditure and prevent further taxation. The petition adopted at the Calcutta meeting fully proves the case for reduction of expenditure, and we hope it will receive adhesion throughout the country. The only speakers at the Bombay meeting, who said anything about the reduction of expenditure, was Mr. Martin Wood, but the other speakers were silent upon the subject.

We fully sympathize with our friends in Bombay in their protest against the local Government for shutting the Town Hall against them. Mr. Rughunath Narayan Khote spoke forcibly and eloquently on this subject. We are surprised that Sir Richard Temple committed himself to such an illiberal step. He was badly advised, but he ought to have exercised his own independent judgment in such a momentous matter. Is constitutional agitation sedition? If not, why seek to smother it by denying the Town Hall as the place of meeting? What will they in England think of this step when they will come to know of it?

THE DEBATE ON THE SALT TAX.

We are sorry to observe that the House of Commons is again lapsing into its old apathy on Indian questions. When Sir George Campbell moved his motion on the salt tax, the benches were empty. The *Times* says: "The flagging interest of the House of Commons is a strange comment on the concern professed by Englishmen for the fortunes of their great Eastern dependency. The point before the House on Friday affected not less than some hundred and eighty millions of our fellow-subjects. To say that Sir George Campbell pleaded to thin benches would be to exaggerate the numbers of his audience. There were almost literally no listen-

ers, except the few who were waiting for their turn to speak." Possibly Sir George Campbell's name scared away members. He is looked upon as a bore, and members have a repugnance to him. But this is not a creditable feeling. A bore may find in the thinness of the House his best strength, and carry votes, which may do the greatest mischief to India. The *Times* continues: "The attitude of the House in this matter is only too faithfully a reflection of the general attitude of the country. During the late famine the call for help from England was raised loudly and widely, and was promptly and liberally met. But when the requirements of India are not to be satisfied by a mere gift of money, when the attention of Englishmen to its affairs is what is asked for, the reply is less favorable. The result is that projectors and theorists to whom no one acquainted with Indian affairs would listen for a moment have as good a chance as any one else of enlisting disciples. With an uninformed and therefore uncritical crowd, one set of notions is as likely to obtain credence as another. Those who are not willing to qualify themselves to become judges are ready enough to accept the office at the bidding of an itinerant lecturer, and to shout applause at the nonsense it occurs to him to suggest to them." And the apathy of the House may thus become the greatest danger of India.

With regard to the debate itself it was infructuous. Sir George Campbell withdrew his motion on the promise of Lord George Hamilton to lay all the papers before the House. Sir George was premature in his motion. He took a leap in the dark. He had not before him the debates of the Vice-Regal Council, but he sought to forestall the judgment of the House. If he had waited, he would have seen the able and elaborate exposition of the Salt policy by Lord Lytton. That exposition has completely anticipated Sir George Campbell's objections. These objections, we need hardly say, are purely sentimental. The salt tax does not press upon the people at all. In fact they are even not aware that the salt they consume is taxed. In a poor country like India a tax cannot be productive unless it goes down low, unless the masses are reached, unless the millions are made to pay. And the salt tax is a sort of poll tax, which none can escape. Then a direct tax is not suited to the circumstances of the people of this country. It cannot be made perfectly equitable, but there is so much inequality in the circumstances of the different classes of the people that it cannot but lead to annoyance, oppression, and injustice in its practical working. These practical objections do not however apply to the salt tax. On the other hand no direct tax can be so productive as the salt tax. It brings in more than six millions, but no direct tax would yield half as much without producing grievous oppression. While the salt tax is so productive, its pressure per head is infinitesimally small—in Bengal where the duty is the highest, the incidence per head is about 8 annas, per annum or less than one anna per month. Could any thing be more insensate than to attack such a productive and innocuous tax? Those who oppose this tax are simply carried away by sentiment.

Sir George Campbell prefaced his motion by saying that "it was unfair and inexpedient that additional taxation should be imposed mainly upon the poor, while the rich remained almost untouched, and that it should take the very objectionable form of a tax upon food." Now, this comes with ill grace from a man, who did not hesitate to tax the poorest ryot for the road cess, which is an income tax of 1½ per cent. But the rich have not escaped. In Bengal the landholders pay an income tax of more than 3 per cent. upon their land income, not to mention other taxes. But Sir George did not propose any new tax upon the rich alone. On the contrary he said, "now the famine-tax which it was proposed to impose on land, had his entire approval, while as to the tax on traders and artisans, he was in favor of the principle on which the Government had determined to proceed, provided the tax were justly and equally imposed upon all classes." He continued, "he was ready to admit that up to the limit of £1,000 a year, which would be represented by a £20 tax, the charge was a fair one, but

his complaint was not of the modes of its imposition as an income-tax on the middle classes, but that, contrary to the practice in the case of such a tax, it was to be imposed on the very lowest artisans. The Government of India were afraid of the great mercantile companies, and did not tax them because they knew that such a measure would tend to unpopularity. On this point we agree with Sir George Campbell, but the amendments introduced in the License Tax Bill have to a great extent anticipated his objections. His attack was wholly directed against the salt tax, which as we have endeavoured to shew is both necessary and unobjectionable. At the same time we desire to say that we do not support the increase of the Salt tax, but Lord Lytton has clearly shewn the grounds upon which he has proceeded. For our part we are opposed to the equalization of the Salt tax, throughout India, because it is not practicable. In fact we would have preferred if no reduction in the salt duty had been made in Bengal, and if the money, which this reduction would carry, had been applied to cover the amount expected by the increase of the duty in Madras and Bombay. This part of the Salt policy of the Government is certainly not quite comprehensible. Possibly it is playing itself into the hands of the salt agitators of Liverpool. Lord George Hamilton thus defended the Salt policy of the Government of India :

The Salt Duty of India was said to be crushing; but where? Not in Madras and Bombay, but in Bengal. At the present moment the rate in Bengal was 52 annas per maund. The rate in the North-West and other parts of India, was 48 annas. In Bombay and Madras it was 29 annas. It was the duty of the Government to equalize, not by levelling up, but by levelling down. But it was impossible to level down to the level of Bombay and Madras without sacrificing a very large part of the revenue. Were we, then, to sit still and never attempt to equalize the duties of India? There was one course that might be adopted—namely that of raising to a certain extent the duty in Madras and Bombay and to level the duty in Bengal down to that which was proposed in Madras and Bombay. That was what Sir John Strachey proposed. He proposed to exempt Bengal from the land-tax. It would be reversing the principle of local rule and responsibility to lay down a rule that when a locality suffered a calamity all others were to bear the taxation necessary for its relief; yet that would be the result of Sir John Strachey's proposals if he had not put additional taxation upon Madras and Bombay. He objected to put it in the shape of a land tax, because the land revenue was high, and impoverished people would have difficulty in paying a land-tax, which would become payable at certain stated intervals. Therefore he proposed to bring the Salt Duty in Madras and Bombay to the level which he proposed for the whole of India—viz. 2rs. 8a. An increase of 12a. was, no doubt, a considerable one, but the raised duty would still be below the present rate in Bengal, which was to be reduced by 2a., while that of the North-West Provinces and elsewhere would be reduced by 4a. These changes were not made capriciously simply to increase taxation, but were made to accomplish reforms and equalization, and to facilitate the abolition of the inner Customs' line of 2000 miles which reflected little credit on our administration. It would not be possible to carry out these reforms with a lower duty on salt. Negotiations were being carried on with the Native Princes on the other side of the line, and when these were completed there would be a uniform duty on salt throughout India. All other forms of taxation had been considered, and preference given to the increase of the salt duties, which amounted to only 21. a head, and would not be payable all at one time, while the change embodied the germ of a great fiscal reform and furnished the means by which Madras and Bombay would contribute their fair share towards a famine insurance fund. By the acceptance of the amendment the whole equilibrium of the Budget would be upset, and urgent reform would be indefinitely postponed. Notwithstanding all the criticism indulged in, no alternative was offered, yet it was proposed that the House should incur the serious responsibility of interfering with the functions of the Indian Government which after mature deliberation had adopted a form of taxation preferred by the people, of whom 147 millions were now paying a tax higher than that proposed, which would be an advance to 45 millions. He had always taken a sanguine view of the salt-tax, and believed that reduction of the tax would be followed by increase of consumption. If that anticipation were realized, the Finance Minister would be able to reduce that rate for all India to the present rate for Madras and Bombay. Sir John Strachey had sketched reforms which would be of great utility, and hoped the House would not on a plausible motion directed to the weakest part of the Budget, postpone indefinitely reforms which would confer great benefits on the people of India. (Hear, hear.)

We agree with much that fell from Lord George Hamilton, but we cannot concur in the fatuous policy of the equalization of the Salt duty. Things that are not equal to the same things are not equal to one another. Madras, Bombay and Bengal are not equally situated. Bombay and Madras are on the sea coast and it does not cost much the salt manufacturer there to produce the article. Then the consumption of salt in Madras is greater per head than in Bengal. In the next place the Bengal peasantry are more prosperous than their brethren of Madras. The former are therefore better able to bear a high salt duty

than the latter. Further, Bengal has always been accustomed to a high salt duty, and the people have prospered in spite of it. The duty is again much more productive in Bengal by reason of its vast population. Such being the case an equalization of the duty between the different provinces is not practicable. We hope the Government of India and the Home Government will not injure a productive source of revenue from a fancied love of symmetry.

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OF CALCUTTA.

IV.

We think we have in our previous articles on this subject have shewn clearly that the *personnel* of the present municipality in point of respectability and intellectuality is not inferior to that of the late Corporation, though the inadequate representation of the European community in consequence of their disinclination to join it, is a matter of regret, that the present Commissioners are not half as talkative as their predecessors were, that they are hard-working and devote considerable portion of their time to the business of the Municipality, and have in a single year accomplished we may say the work of a decade. Let us now consider whether, supposing that the Municipal Commissioners are not alive to their duties, the law does not sufficiently protect the interests of the rate-payers. The first duty of the Commissioners is to maintain the credit of the Municipality, to fulfil its obligations to its creditors. Now, what does the law say upon this point? Section 337 runs as follows :

The Commissioners shall set aside yearly out of their annual income, before making any disbursements in respect thereof.

Firstly, such sum as may be required for the payment of the interest which may fall due on any debentures issued under the authority of this Act, or of any enactment hereby expressly repealed;

Secondly, a sum of not less than two per cent. on the total sum borrowed by the Commissioners for the purposes of any enactment hereby expressly repealed, exclusive of the sum now due, or of any sum which may hereafter become due, by them to the Secretary of State for India in Council, and shall appropriate the same, so far as it is required, or will extend, to repay the amount (if any) of such loans or debentures issued by them as shall fall due in the course of the year.

And they shall invest the surplus (if any) of the said sum after repayment as aforesaid, or in case there has not been any amount due or paid in respect of such loans or debentures during the year, then they shall invest the whole of the said sum in Government securities, or in any securities guaranteed by Government, or in Calcutta municipal debentures, in the names of the Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the Revenue Department and the Accountant-General of Bengal respectively for the time being, to be by them held as Trustees for the purpose of repaying at due date from time to time the several loans contracted or debentures issued by the Commissioners.

And all moneys and securities now held by any Trustees for the Commissioners for the purpose of paying off any sum borrowed by them, shall be held by them upon the trusts hereinbefore declared.

All interest accruing due to the Trustees shall also from time to time be invested by them in like manner and held upon the like trust.

It will be thus seen that the Commissioners have no choice in this matter. They must provide for interest and sinking fund. Secondly, the Commissioners are required to provide for the Police Budget. Chapter VIII. of Act IV. of 1876 fully sets forth the obligations of the Commissioners on this subject. They cannot alter or modify the Police Budget as sent up by the Commissioner of Police. If they object to any item of expenditure, they can only record their opinion for the information of Government, but they must *volens volens* provide the money. Thirdly, they must extend and complete throughout the Town the new underground drainage work now under construction, and for that purpose expend annually a sum, being not less than one lakh and a half of rupees or a less sum with the sanction of the local Government. Fourthly, they must maintain a water-supply in the manner and to the extent mentioned in Chapter VII. of Act IV. of 1876. That chapter enjoins :

The Commissioners shall provide a supply of water within the Town, and shall for that purpose cause such mains and pipes to be laid, and such tanks, reservoirs, or other works to be made and constructed, as shall be necessary for the supply of filtered water in all the chief public streets of the Town, and shall also erect, in all such streets, sufficient and convenient stand pipes or pumps for the gratuitous use of the inhabitants of the Town for domestic purposes.

The said stand pipes or pumps shall be so placed that there shall not be any portion of any such chief street at a greater distance than one hundred and fifty yards from some such stand pipe or pump.

Fifthly, the Commissioners must make adequate and suitable provision for the cleaning and conservancy of the Town and to provide such funds as may be necessary for that purpose. All these duties are imperative upon the Commissioners, and if they neglect them, they are liable to be sued in the High Court. Then the law provides that "if it shall appear to the local Government that the Commissioners have failed to make adequate and suitable provision for the cleaning and the conservancy of the Town to an extent likely to be prejudicial to the health of the inhabitants of the Town, or of any part thereof," it may appoint a Commission, and if the Commissioners should neglect to carry out the recommendations of this Commission, the local Government may order the Chairman to carry out those recommendations and to provide the necessary funds, without reference to the Commissioners. It will be thus seen that the law has made ample provision for the protection of the interests of the rate-payers.

The business of the Municipality is conducted chiefly by Committees. There are some 14 Committees, some of which do outdoor work, such as the inspection of bustees, tanks and jute-screws and ware-houses. The Commissioners meet once a month on an average, and execute such business as is laid before them. The initiative is generally taken by the Chairman as the head of the executive. The Chairman also carries on the ordinary work of the Municipality, and takes the orders of the Commissioners in such matters as require their sanction. Strictly speaking, the well-being of the Municipality depends greatly upon the Chairman. He does the work with his own hands. He collects and spends the money; he guides the internal machinery; he controls the municipal officers; he superintends the administration of the law in respect of the obligations of the rate-payers as regards conservancy, drainage, water, trade, and a thousand other things; he prepares the estimates, and checks prices; he originates works, and disburses the money; in fact, he is the guiding spring of the municipal machine. If he has energy, business aptitude, industry, courage, a keen sense of duty and justice, and a just regard for the provisions of the law, the municipal coach cannot go wrong. Both he and the Commissioners have but one object in view, viz., the good of the town, and if the Chairman knows how to lead, the Commissioners are sure to follow him. There ought to be mutual confidence between them. If the Chairman distrusts the Commissioners, the latter will naturally reciprocate the same feeling. The Chairman of the Calcutta Municipality occupies a most important position. He is, if not *de jure*, at any rate the *de facto* Lord Mayor of the town. He is the head of the Police and the Municipality. He represents the civilization and honor of England in the capital of the Empire. It is not every man, who can successfully fill this high and arduous position. If the present experiment of an elective municipal government of the Town fails, not a little odium will fall upon the Chairman. It is in his power to make it a success or a failure. The natives of this county are proverbially docile; it is not their habit to offer cantankerous or rancorous opposition to authority; if then they are sometimes driven to opposition, the reader may rest assured that the cause cannot be insignificant. We do not wish to prolong the discussion of the subject further. We hope we have said enough to shew whether the condemnation passed on the present Corporation is really merited, and whether the time has arrived for a change in its constitution.

MR. EDEN'S FIRST REPORT.

In presenting his first administration report of Bengal Mr. Eden has not chosen to follow the example of his immediate predecessors. Sir George Campbell introduced the practice of preparing the report with an introductory chapter, being a summary of the report. This chapter was valuable not so much as a summary but as a record of the opinions of the head of the Government on various public questions engaging his attention. Sir George perhaps, overdid his part, but it was always interesting to note what the head of the Government had to say in defence of his measures and in foreshadowing his policy. Sir Richard Temple followed the example of his predecessor half way, for his introductory chapters were not half as voluminous as those of Sir George. But Mr. Eden has not trodden the footsteps of his predecessors. We are not surprised at his reticence, for he does not like to talk. He prefers work to talkativeness, but in governing millions of people one cannot help talking sometimes. An Indian ruler has so few opportunities of taking the public into confidence, explaining his measures and policy, and invoking the sympathy of those he governs that he should not in our humble opinion miss the opportunity, which the annual report offers, for such an exposition. It is true that silence is gold and speech is silver, but there are occasions when speech becomes gold. Hence we regret that in presenting his first administration report of Bengal Mr. Eden has chosen to follow the policy of reticence. There are many misconceptions abroad about his policy, sentiments, and sympathies, which would have been corrected or removed if he had spoken out with his usual frankness. It is true that men are judged by their deeds, but deeds are sometimes not fully understood unless properly explained. The present report as a narrative of the operations of the Bengal Government during past year is replete with facts and information; any one who wishes to form a judgment of the work done by Mr. Eden in the first year of his administration of Bengal can undoubtedly do so with the aid of the facts given, but the public want something more than a bare narrative of facts.

"The year 1877," says the Report, "will be memorable not only in the annals of Indian administration and in the pages of the future historian of the country, but in the recollections and feelings of all classes of the people. The opening of the year, signalized by a ceremony of the highest political importance, and by a loyal enthusiasm which the occasion evoked throughout the land, was even then overclouded by the shadow of the great calamity of famine which shortly afterwards overspread the southern and western presidencies. The outbreak of war between Russia and Turkey appealed strongly to the sympathies, both political and religious, of an important section of the population. In Bengal, however, the effect of these occurrences was less keenly and less directly felt than in other parts of the empire. In connection with the war between Russia and Turkey religious services were held in some of the Calcutta mosques, and subscriptions were raised to succour the sick and wounded and the families of soldiers who might fall in the war; but the movement hardly extended beyond the presidency town, and excited little interest among the bulk of the Mahomedan population in the eastern districts. The famine which desolated the districts of Southern India, extended to only one corner of the provinces under the Bengal Government a tract of about 100 square miles in the South-west of Orissa, near the Chilka lake. Throughout this tract the harvests almost entirely failed, and a population of about 12,000 souls was reduced to a condition of the utmost destitution. Relief was afforded by Government and from private charity; local public works were set on foot; and though there was much unavoidable suffering, the worst extremities of famine were thus averted." Referring to the famine in Southern India the Lieutenant Governor remarks: "One result of the famine in the south and west of India was to stimulate commercial activity in Bengal to an almost unprecedented extent. Large quantities of grain were forwarded westward by the railway still larger quantities were sent by sea to the south. The charges for freight rose to an

unusual height; the port of Calcutta was crowded with vessels taking cargoes on board for Madras; there were not enough cargo boats to put the rice on board, and an insufficient number of pilots to take the ships to sea. For several months all the appliances of the port were strained to the utmost to supply this unusual demand. At the same time the calamity, which thus stimulated enterprise, had also the effect of quickening benevolence. But those who made the profits did not often subscribe liberally so at all."

Mr. Eden makes the following remarks on Indigo cultivation:

"With regard to the question of Indigo cultivation in Behar, the Lieutenant-Governor had occasion, soon after assuming charge of the administration, to declare, in considering a proposal which was made last year for a commission of enquiry into the system of indigo planting, that before taking any steps to regulate it by law he would await the result of the measures of reform which the planters on his invitation themselves resolved to initiate. He declared himself ready to consider any suggestions which they might make, and any amendments of the existing rent-law which they might deem necessary to place the relations of Zemindar, planter, and ryot on an equitable basis. The Lieutenant-Governor is fully convinced that the down fall of the indigo industry in Behar would be a public calamity, and has no doubt whatever that it may, by judicious modifications and a fairer distribution of profits, be carried on without friction and to the advantage of all concerned. Mr. Eden gladly acknowledges that a very considerable step towards placing matters on a sounder basis has already been taken, and that his proposals for reforming the old system have been met by the planters in a cordial and conciliatory spirit. Indeed he sees every reason to believe that they recognise the fact that if the indigo trade is to continue it can only be by a greater recognition of the right and interests of those who actually grow the crop. The reforms which some of the planters have already introduced into the system have been attended with the most beneficial results."

Mr. Eden thus notices the proposed amendment of the Rent law:

On the whole, the result of the information which the Lieutenant-Governor has acquired in his visits to various parts of the Lower Provinces is that there has been little open display of animosity during the year between landlords and tenants, and it has not been necessary in any case to have recourse to the special procedure of the agrarian disputes' act. In some districts certainly there is every indication that the landlords and tenants, who have been disputing for years, are now coming to terms and making mutual concessions. The causes of dispute, however, have not been removed, and the real grievance is that the state of the law is such as practically to involve a denial of justice to either party who may attempt to put the law in motion. The Zemindar who applies to the courts to obtain an enhancement of rents or the recovery of arrears due to him, the ryot who complains of excessive demands or of illegal distraint,—finds himself hampered, and eventually baffled, by the technical and dilatory procedure which regulates the disposal of these classes of suits. So long as this is the case, it is to be apprehended that the differences will smoulder without being extinguished; that both parties will ordinarily remain quiescent, but that the latent animosity will from time to time break out in acts of violence and outrage. Such in fact, has been the experience of the past year, two aggravated cases of the murder of Zemindars by ryots having occurred—one in Furruckpore and the other in Midnapore. This evil can only be effectually remedied by an amendment of the law, and the Lieutenant-Governor has accordingly expressed his desire of introducing a measure to facilitate the realization of rents by a more speedy and summary procedure than now exists.

The Report has the following about the Vernacular Press:

The number of native newspapers supplied to the Bengal Library, during the year under review, exclusive of 23 which ceased to exist during that period, was 35, against 53 received in 1875-76, of this number 4 were daily, 26 weekly, 1 by-monthly and 4 monthly; all were published in Bengali, with the exception of 1 bi-monthly in Urdu, one weekly in Hindi, 2 weekly in Urdu and 1 weekly in Persian, of the 35 papers supplied to the library 11 were published in Calcutta, 8 in the Dacca Division, 8 in the Presidency Division, 3 in the Patna Division, 4 in the Burdwan Division, and 4 in the Rajshahi and Cooch Behar Division. From the Chittagong, Orissa and Chota Nagpore Divisions no papers are received in the Library. The large reduction in the number of the vernacular newspapers is directly traceable to the spread of English education, which is continually increasing the demand for cheap English papers and reducing the number of subscribers to vernacular newspapers.

Mr. Eden notices the state of public feeling in Bengal during the last year in the following terms: "The year was for the most part a prosperous one in Bengal, and the reports upon the state of public feeling show the people in general to have been tranquil and contented. The active demonstrations of loyalty called forth by the ceremony of the 1st January have already been noticed." We will take a future opportunity to notice the different sections of the Report.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

FRANCE has again honored our distinguished countryman Dr. Rajendralala Mitra. The Department of Public Instruction, Paris, has forward-

ed to him a diploma in which he is described as an "Officer of Public Instruction," and in the covering letter of the Minister of Public Instruction, Religion and Fine Arts, it is said, "in token of the recognition of his services by the State (l'Etat) the Palm leaf of an officer of Public Instruction is conferred on him." A pretty Palm Leaf in gold is forwarded as a badge of the honor.

THE FOLLOWING occurs in the new Rules of the Forest Department:

"As a rule no candidate will be accepted who are married or are under 18 or above 25 years of age."

Is this Rule intended to exclude the natives, for they are generally married at that age?

WE ARE glad to learn that Col. Keatinge, Chief Commissioner of Assam, and Col. Trevor, Chief Engineer of that province, have recommended Babu Bholanath Das, Executive Engineer, to the post of Assistant Accountant General, P. W. D. which has lately become vacant owing to the death of Mr. Newman. The Indians are said to be born accountants, but even as regards the accounts department they are pushed out. It has become the fashion to admit inexperienced outsiders into the accounts department. On this point we cannot do better than transcribe the following remarks of Col. Kemball, Bombay member of the Commission of Enquiry into the system of Public Works Accounts:

"I believe it to be necessary that those entrusted with the larger offices (of accounts) should have qualified in the Executive Branch up to 1st class Engineer. The difficult and complicated nature of the P. W. accounts over those of all other departments, renders comparison valueless, and no good can result from having examiners brought up in a Central Office, dealing with P. W. expenditure, their experience having only been acquired from papers and returns. The P. W. Auditor should be acquainted with the district, the prices of labor and materials, and every detail of an Executive Engineer's accounts and works, which he would have to inspect and report on, otherwise he would be an unsafe adviser to Government, and neither have their confidence on this or that of department. This experience can only be acquired in the rough out-door work of an Executive Division."

Bibu Bholanath Das has a good knowledge of public works accounts and a practical acquaintance with executive work, and his appointment to the vacant post will be really a gain to the department.

WE HAVE received the following letter from Assam dated the 26th ultimo:

"You will be sorry to learn that on the morning of the 22nd instant (February) owing to a very unfavourable wind the ferry-boat on the Brahmaputra at Gauhati got capsized, whereby between 20 and 23 persons were consigned to a watery grave. The accident would have been more serious but for the presence of Colonel Keatinge, the Chief Commissioner, who having just arrived at Gauhati ordered a few jolly-boats and a number of the crew of the Government Steamer Kolodyne to the rescue of the unfortunate souls then struggling for life on the surface of the turbulent river. The exertions of Colonel Keatinge, I am told, were very commendable when it is remembered that he is the Governor of the Province. I hope the personal observation of the Chief Commissioner on this sad occasion will lead to some permanent and good arrangements for safe crossing by the ferries over the Brahmaputra. This time last year you had the melancholy duty of recording an almost similar accident at the Gauhati crossing."

The Deputy Examiner of P. W. Accounts, Assam, has been repeatedly recommending to the Government of India Baboo Krishna Coomarr Sen, an Accountant P. W. D. for promotion on special grounds of high efficiency. If economy is ever enforced in Assam he may be safely placed in charge of the P. W. Accounts of the province irrespective of the amount or nature of the work that he shall have to perform. We congratulate Mr. Hutchinson on his appreciation of the merits of a native officer.

Baboo Balinarain, the Assamese student of Cooper's Hill College, has returned to India as Assistant Engineer, 2nd grade.

In a letter to the Asiatic Society the Government of Bengal thus records its appreciation of the services of Dr. Rajendralala Mitra in connection with the preservation of Sanskrit Manuscripts:

"In the Resolution, No. 7-250, of the Government of India, in the Home Department, dated the 9th instant on the subject of the discovery and preservation of the records of ancient Sanskrit literature, a copy of which, it is understood has been forwarded to you by the Government of India, His Excellency the Governor-General in Council has recorded his great satisfaction at what has already been effected in Bengal in furtherance of the work through the exertions of Dr. Rajendra Lal Mitra, and I am directed to request that you will be good enough to signify to that gentleman the Lieutenant-Governor's appreciation of the successful manner in which he is performing the difficult task of preparing his notices of Sanskrit Manuscripts."

And the public ought to feel the more thankful to Dr. Rajendralala Mitra, because this hard

work is the university of exacting brain-work and the duties of occupations.

CONSIDERABLE excitement seems to prevail among the Brahma community regarding the marriage of Babu Keshub Chunder Sen's daughter. An address was voted to Babu Keshub Chunder Sen at a meeting held at the Albert Hall on Sunday the 24th ultimo. We give the following extract from it:

"We the undersigned inhabitants of Calcutta, members of the Brahma Somaj and others interested in the social and moral progress of the Bengali community, have much pleasure in conveying to you our hearty congratulations on the approaching marriage between His Highness the Maharajah of Cooch Behar and your eldest daughter Srimiti Sunitibala.

We hope and trust that this marriage will be fruitful of happiness not only to the parties concerned, but also to the Bengali community, the Brahma Somaj, and Cooch Behar. In mutual sympathy, fellow-feeling and love amongst the different peoples inhabiting Bengal, lie the best prospects and well-being of the country, and as the proposed marriage is calculated to bring these happy results, we hail it as a happy augury of our future destiny.

The Brahma Somaj is a hopeful movement in this part of the country, inaugurated by the illustrious Rajah Ram Mohun Roy.

By the exertions of the venerable Babu Debendra Nath Tagore, of your worthy self, and such men as Babu Rajmohan Bose and others, it counts among its adherents some of the best and oldest families of Bengal and not a few devoted Natives representing the gentry thereof. But when to these encouraging features of the institution we find a person of such high rank and distinguished position as the Maharajah of Cooch Behar becomes a recognised member of the Brahma Somaj, we may fairly indulge in the hope that the institution will take a deep root in the remotest corner of Bengal and extend its blessings to the people.

As all these benefits are mediately or immediately to be the consequence of the proposed marriage, we congratulate you as the chief promoter of the same, and hope you will accept our kind wishes in the spirit they are offered. May God, the Father of all blessings, crown your and our good objects.

A protest meeting was held at the Town Hall on Thursday the 28th ultimo, at which the following resolutions were passed:

Moved by Babu Narendranath Chattarji.

Seconded by Babu Sasipada Banerji.

Supported by Babu Sivanath Bhattacharji.

That this meeting views with feelings of deep sorrow and condemnation the approaching marriage of the daughter of Babu Keshub Chunder Sen, Secretary Brahma Somaj of India, with the Maharajah of Cooch Behar as being inconsistent with the high principles hitherto recognized and accepted by the Brahma Somaj of India, as likely to exercise an injurious and demoralizing influence on the Brahma community, and as calculated to lower the character of the Brahma Somaj of India, as a reforming and progressive organization and, without in any way impugning his personal character, feels, at the same time constrained to declare that the Secretary to the Brahma Somaj of India by countenancing this marriage and by the utter disregard he has shown of the strong expression of Brahma public opinion on the subject, has forfeited his claims to the confidence of the Brahma community.

Moved by Babu Sivanath Shastri, M.A.

Seconded by Babu Jadunath Chuckerbutty.

That the following gentlemen be formed into a Committee, to be called "the Brahma Somaj Committee," with powers to add to their number with a view to take such measures as they consider necessary in the present crisis in the progress and history of the Brahma Somaj, to conserve the best interests of the Somaj and to organize it on a constitutional basis:—Babus Bhoyrubb Chunder Goswami, Shib Chunder Dey, Anando Mohan Bose, D. M. Das, Narendranath Chattarji, Gurnoharn Mohanobish, Prasanno Kumar Roy, Joggoath Roy, Nabin Chunder Roy, Jodunath Chuckerbutty, Dwarkanath Ganguly, Nobo-chunder Chuckerbutty, Sadanando Das, Ramchunder Bhattacharji, Kalinath Dutt, Sasipada Banerji, Bhagwan Chunder Bose, Horo Kumar Roy Chowdry, Radakanto Banerji, Gouesh Chunder Dutt and the mover.

THE FOURTEENTH Annual Conversazione of the Mohammedan Literary Society, which was held on Tuesday last, was as usual a great success. His Excellency the Viceroy graced the occasion with his august presence. The entertainment was interesting and varied. The Rev. E. LaFont, S. J. exhibited among other things Gramme's Magneto-electrical machine, producing an electric current equal to 10 cells of Bunsen. Mr. J. Murray, of the firm of Messrs. Black and Murray, exhibited the Electric Pen. Lent for the occasion by Messrs. Jessop and Co. The following were exhibited by Babu Kanie Lal Dey Rai Bahadur: Electric light, magnesium light, Drummond or lime light, artificial sun light, an artificial moon light, a rolling ball of fire, fire under water, a shower of fire, fire raised by command, a flash of fire, liquid taking fire, water in fire, wall in fire with rainbow colours, a pyrophorus scintillations of fire by electricity, explosion of gun-cotton by electricity, enchanted coin, enchanted knife, enchanted bottle, enchanted rod. Babu Kanyelal Dey exhibited a chart of Indian poisons with some specimens of road-poison and cattle-poison, and gave an account of the mode of administering those poisons, in which His Excellency the Viceroy evinced much interest. Babu Kanyalal's table was the centre of attraction.

WE HAVE received the following statement for publication:

"I was at Huttia on the morning yesterday 26th February and left there about 10.30 A. M. getting to Portabpore at 12 o'clock, on my arrival there my Monshes came to me and asked me to see one of my important business, and he told me that 5 or 6 chuprises had come on ekkas from Sewan by order of Mr. Phillips with warrants to arrest my Jemadar and 2 or 3 more of my cultivating servants. I was astounded to hear this as I was quite unaware of any case, pending which would cause the arrest of any of my servants. Half an hour afterwards a messenger arrived from my Sewan Mookhtear informing me that Mr. Phillips had issued warrants for the arrest of the above servants, and that I myself was to be called upon to appear personally at Sewan on the 2nd of March. As I have been unable to obtain copies of the charge preferred against myself and servants I am unable to say precisely what it is, but I am told by my Mookhtear that a certain malik in the village of Koberpore took some Assamese in to complain to Mr. Phillips that certain lands that had been prepared by them for sugarcane they had been forcibly prevented from sowing. This accusation is utterly false.

As warrants issued upon my principal cultivating servants at a time when they are fully engaged upon the sowing of indigo lands must have a ruinous effect upon the interests of the factory which I manage, and feeling as I did that these warrants were issued unjustly, I started for Sewan the same afternoon at 3 P. M. and drove to Mr. Phillips' court, which he was then holding. Upon my entering the court a chuprass brought me a chair. Mr. Phillips did not appear to observe my entrance, but shortly afterwards he turned towards me and said "what is it?" or words to that effect. I therefore sat down and said to him, as far as I could recollect, "I am very sorry to hear you have issued warrants for the arrest of my Jemadar and other servants. I should like to hear the charge that has been made against them now." Mr. Phillips said angrily and in a high tone, "yes I have issued the warrants and have sent my own special men to arrest them too." I then said "I am very sorry for the course you have taken." He then said, "Hold your tongue, and 'Chopra' you are fined for contempt of Court Rs 100." calling out loudly at the same time in Hindustani and stamping his foot, "Toomara sae rupya jurimannah." I then asked him "what have I done that I should be fined for contempt of court," he said in a very excited manner and again stamping his foot, "leave my Court." I said "very well sir" and he then repeated, stamping his foot furiously, "leave it instantly." and then before I had time to rise from my chair, he rushed at me and seized me by the throat and at the same time calling loudly for a guard to turn me out. I was immediately seized by a number of men, more than a dozen I should say, who tried to throw me down; Mr. Phillips at the same time calling loudly to them saying "Maro Sahab Ko, gira dho Sahab Ko." My shirt was very much torn and my trousers also ripped right up. I kept saying in English and Hindustani, "leave me alone and do not throw me down. I will do anything the Court orders." While all these men were holding me so that I could not move Mr. Phillips was running round and jumping about in a most excited manner and seized me by the hair of my head pulling it several times. I was then let go and taken before Mr. Phillips who said "wo aaimae sae rupya jurimannah o sool kurren, aur bahar rakto jobtuk rupya o sool hogi." I was then led out at the same door by which the prisoners are taken out and in with a guard of Police, and kept outside till my Mookhtear came with the money about half an hour or so. I was then told that I might go. There were a large number of people, hundreds I should say, who saw me I have been for a great many years, a resident in the neighbourhood and I am well known to every body. The above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

(Sd.) M. N. Macdonald.

We give the statement as we have received it. We reserve comments till we see the other side of the story.

Mr. Jones's judgment in the Bailiff's case, which we noticed the other day, deserves a more extended notice than we had time or space for in our previous issue. It is a judgment which we hope will bear fruit. After giving the facts of the case Mr. Jones remarks:

Is it possible, then, having regard to all the facts disclosed in the evidence, to arrive at any conclusion short of the conviction forced upon me by the testimony of the writs themselves, that what was written upon them by the bailiff was written with a conscious and deliberate purpose and intention to deceive; and that he made no inventory whatever of the property at the place of seizure. Doubtless these headnotes on the several writs were written by him while the actual list of the goods was being made by Seetaram. However this may be, and whether an inventory was written or not, the list of goods written on these warrants is not in that inventory, and it was certainly not written at the time when the property was attached. As to the writ which remained with him from the 26th July up to the 4th August, the bailiff is himself at a loss to explain when, and where that list was written. But the third writ is not a whit more trust-worthy, and both the writ and the inventory bear so marked a contrast to the others that each and both of them must have been altogether an after thought. No doubt, therefore, the reason why the bailiff's return was not made in due course was because the writing of the inventory on these warrants from first to last, had most probably to be done in conformity with the dictates and purposes of the man to whom the bailiff seems to have been subservient from the outset—the dala! Seetaram. And this brings me to consider the conduct of the bailiff generally throughout the transactions. Let us glance at the proceedings initiated as they were by Seetaram. At the outset the short-date summonses and the orders for immediate execution were all issued upon the false affidavits prepared under his instructions. What the conduct of the bailiff ought to have been has been set forth already. The scene, then, at the Rajah's Kuttra opens with an act of criminal trespass, house-breaking, by Seetaram, an act which, whether committed in the presence of the bailiff or not, was

at any rate a daring manifestation to the people of Burra Bazar of the power arrogated to himself by this lawless character, to say nothing of his cool and insolent contempt of the court's authority as represented by its officer. The really disinterested witnesses swear to the fact that the bailiff stood below during the preliminary altercation between Seetaram and the zemindar's people, and was a silent witness to the subsequent breaking of the locks by Seetaram. At any rate even accepting his own story, the broken locks were lying before him when he reached the spot; and although he had (he says) spoken to nobody, it never occurred to him that an illegal act, an act of violence, had been perpetrated. Everything was left to Seetaram. Seetaram directed everything and everybody; he went into the shop and took account of the property; he prepared a list of the goods; and he ordered their removal: in short, Seetaram was master of the position. From the bailiff's own statement, it does not appear that he even went inside the shop, and at the finale, according to his own Witnesses, he merely asked them if there was anything left behind; and then, away went the property. In these proceedings, we have to consider the facilities afforded by the bailiff for misappropriation and plunder. Even the loading of the cart took place at a distance of some 45 or 50 feet from the shop; and when he left the Rajah's Kuttra, the bailiff, instead of keeping a vigilant eye on the goods on their way to the Court, drove off elsewhere to purchase pomegranates! Then, after the goods were deposited in the Court godowns, what check was there upon the Jemadar, who, together with the peon Bundoo and others employed in the seizure, were all in league, with Seetaram? This was patent to the whole establishment of bailiffs, and we even find Seetaram, as well as Bundoo, the Jemadar's headman, buyers at the sale of this very property. The bailiff had no means of accounting for the goods. That the sworn brokers and appraisers should have winked at such a state of things, carried on for a long time in defiance of the rules, is very discreditable. It is notorious that through the agency of Bundoo and others employed on the Court's establishment, the Jemadar has regularly trafficked in goods disposed of at the Court sales; and we have actually in evidence piece-goods belonging to this very attachment, which were made over by him for sale to the witness Moolchand. The statement made by Bhugwan Sing, formerly a peon in the Jemadar's employ, proves how goods were regularly removed away by the Jemadar, or by his order, at all hours of the day. At all events, he was well aware that the bailiff possessed no means of checking the amount of property made over to his custody; and there can be no doubt of the alliance which existed between himself and Seetaram. It is much to be regretted that this miscreant has not been brought before the Magistrate for the transaction which gave such import to his presence and proceedings before the assembled multitude at the Rajah's Kuttra. A prosecution, it seems to me, was imperatively called for in order to convince the traders of Burra Bazar that the whole herd of dalals are in reality, dangerous characters, who have no countenance or authority whatever from this Court. Most necessary is it that they should know, that without their intervention, the Court provides prompt means of redress for them in all their lawful litigation; that the Court itself is in their midst—he *valens instans in judicio*, in submitting to which they have only to rely upon the authority committed to its trusted officers.

What a state of things does the above disclose! Mr. Jones thus concluded:

Seeing in Court some of the decree-holders who had given evidence in the case, his Honor desired them to come forward and listen to the advice he had to give them, and which was explained to them by the Court Interpreter. He said:—I wish you to understand that by coming to the Court and swearing to false affidavits (as you did when you applied for immediate execution in this case,) you rendered yourselves liable to serious penalties under the Penal Code. Several of the decree-holders, their gomasthas, and other Marwaras, are here to-day, and probably their business connections extend throughout the trading community of Burra Bazar. The inquiry now concluded has been a subject of general discussion amongst yourselves, and you will return to the bazar, and communicate the result to many who are much concerned in litigation in this Court; you will tell them of what has befallen this unfortunate bailiff through his misconduct, tell them at the same time how much is due to Seetaram; tell them that he is no mookhtear of this court; that in all his transaction as a dala! he is not even allowed to enter the court; tell them that in their dealings with these dalals they simply sacrifice their money; and further that in all their legal difficulties, it will be a better, cheaper, and far safer plan to go at once to the recognised pleaders of the court.

Mr. Jones deserves the thanks of the public for this uncompromising exposure of the abuses, which attend the execution of decrees in the Calcutta Small Cause Court. It requires root and branch reform, and if Mr. Millet lend his co-operation to Mr. Jones we have every hope that it will be done effectually.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS Rs. As. P.

Raja of Dacca, Cuttack.....	13	4	0
Federick Rowe Esq., Krishnagur.....	13	8	0
Secretary Bhaghat Reading Club.....	6	10	0
Secretary Jubbulpore Reading Club.....	13	4	0
Rajshahye District Road Cess Committee.....	5	8	0
Rangpore Public Library.....	26	8	0
Traffic Superintendent Tirhoot State Railway.....	2	8	0
Baboo Monohary Lal Shome, Chinsai.....	2	0	0
Shoshi Bhason Mookerjee, Lohore.....	13	4	0
Janoky Nath Mookerjee, Kandi.....	13	4	0
Shib Chunder Shome, Sonapatna.....	13	4	0
Gresh Chunder Ghose, Sonapatna.....	13	4	0
Rany Kant Ghose Nya Dookma.....	13	4	0
Jadub Chunder Banerjee, Mughal.....	13	4	0
Ramlal Ghose, Darbhanga.....	13	4	0
Jogendra Nath Chatterjee, Darbhanga.....	13	4	0
Ringbut Churn Chatterjee, Darbhanga.....	13	4	0
Kallyprosunno Chatterjee, Darbhanga.....	13	4	0
Jogoch Chaudhary, Sonapatna, Rajshahi.....	6	10	0

ERRATA.

For Bepin Mohan Ghosh, Dacca, Road to Rangpore..... 10 0 0

Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette.—February, 27, 1878.

GENERAL.—Mr. G. G. Dey, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, in charge of the Tajpore Division of the Durbhanga district is allowed furlough for ten months under section 12 of the Civil Leave Code, together with subsidiary leave for twenty days under section 24 of the Code, with effect from the 1st April 1878, or such subsequent date as he may be relieved of his duties.

Mr. L. R. Forbes, Assistant Commissioner, having returned from furlough, is appointed to have charge of the Palomow division of the Lohardugga district.

Baboo Medni Prosad Sing, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Durbhanga, is transferred to Patna.

Mr. F. A. Slack, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Dinagopore, is appointed to have charge of the Bagdogra division of the Rungpore district.

Baboo Umbica Churn Roy Chowdry, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, in charge of the Bagdogra division of the Rungpore district, is transferred to the Sudder Station of Dinagopore.

Mr. E. S. Andrew, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Midnapore, is appointed to have charge of the Contai division of that district, vice Mr. D. Norton.

The orders of the 4th instant, granting leave for three months to Baboo Doorga Das Chowdry, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Durbhanga, are cancelled.

Mr. E. J. Barton, Officiating Magistrate and Collector Backergunge, is allowed leave for three months under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 13th proximo, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Mr. W. M. Clay, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rungpore, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of Backergunge during the absence, on leave, on Mr. E. J. Barton.

Major, R. O. Money, Deputy Commissioner Julpigore, having resumed charge of his duties the unexpired portion of the leave granted to him under orders of the 5th November last, is cancelled.

Mr. W. C. Muller, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted to the Sudder Station of the Rajshahye district, and is vested with the power of a Collector under act X of 1870.

The orders of the 19th instant, published in the Calcutta Gazette of the 20th idem, posting Mr. Muller to Julpigore, are cancelled.

Mr. B. C. Garrett, Districts and Sessions Judge, Dacca, is appointed to act until further orders in the First Grade of District and Sessions Judge, vice Mr. J. M. Lewis.

Mr. F. W. R. Cowley, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Shahabad, is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of Bhagulpore during the absence, on leave, of Mr. J. Lewis, or until further orders.

The Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State for India has been pleased to grant Mr. A. C. Tute, c. s., six months' extension of furlough on medical certificate.

Mr. T. E. Coxhead, Officiating Deputy Commissioner, Sonthal Pergunnahs, is appointed to act in the First Grade of Deputy Commissioners during the absence, on leave, of Mr. J. Boxwell, or until further orders.

Baboo Grish Chunder Mitter, Personal Assistant to the Commissioners of Chota Nagpore, is allowed leave for three months under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code.

Baboo Raj Gopal Roy, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Hazareebagh, is appointed to act as Personal Assistant to the Commissioner, of Chota Nagpore during the absence, on leave of Baboo Grish Chunder Mitter, or until further orders.

Mr. A. W. Cochran, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rajshahye, is appointed to act as Additional District and Sessions Judge of Chittagong during the absence, on leave, of Mr. F. J. G. Campbell, or until further orders.

Baboo Gobind Chunder Bose, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, 24-Pergunnahs, is transferred to Howrah.

Mr. T. D. Moran, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector of the Seventh Grade, is allowed leave, on medical certificate, from the 7th May to the 30th November 1877, in extension of the leave granted to him under orders of the 16th July 1877.

Mr. Moran is further allowed leave for one year under section 9, Supplement F of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 1st December 1877.

Mr. R. H. Wilson, Magistrate and Collector, Midnapore, on leave, is appointed to act until further orders in the First Grade of Magistrates and Collectors, with effect from the 11th instant.

Mr. J. Ware, Edgar, c. s. l., Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Shahabad, is appointed to act until further orders in the First Grade of Magistrates and Collectors, with effect from the date on which he joined his appointment at Arrah.

Mr. J. J. Livesay, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Rungpore, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the Second Grade of Magistrates and Collectors, vice Mr. J. Ware-Edgar, c. s. l.

Mr. D. W. M. Testro, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Gya, is appointed to act temporarily as Magistrate and Collector of that district until further orders, vice Mr. F. M. Halliday.

Mr. F. H. Harding, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dacca, is appointed to have charge of the Tajpore division of the Durbhanga district.

MEDICAL.—Assistant Surgeon Chunder Nath Biswas, attached to the Charitable Dispensary at Cutwa, in Burdwan, is allowed leave for four months under section 3, Supplement F of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave granted to him under orders of the 11th October 1877.

Surgeon L. Cameron is allowed leave for two months under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he was relieved of his duties as Officiating Civil Surgeon, Burdwan, by Dr. R. Bird.

Dr. R. A. Barker, Civil Medical Officer, Bogra, is allowed subsidiary leave for twenty-six days, under section 24 (b) of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 27th December last, to enable him to join his appointment in that district.

Dr. Uday Chand Dutt, Officiating Civil Medical Officer, Furreedpore, is allowed leave for ten days under the rules in

Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 16th instant, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Baboo Bhola Nath Ghose is appointed to be a Member of and Secretary to the Committee for the management of the Charitable Dispensary at Cynthea, in the district of Beerbhoom, vice Baboo Nobin Chunder Ghose, deceased.

Advertisements.

WANTED—by an M. A. in English of quiet habits a situation as tutor to the family of a gentleman in or about town.

NOTICE.

TENDERS are invited by the District Road Cess Department for supply of 20,000 cubic feet of Teak, delivered in Julpigore on the Northern Bengal State Railway.

The undersigned does not bind himself to accept the lowest or any tender.

N. W. MACKENZIE JUNR, C.E.,
District Engineer, Julpigore.

SUBSCRIPTIONS IN AID OF THE ORIENTAL SEMINARY BUILDING FUND.

The Hon'ble Maharajah Joteendro Mohan Tagore.
Bahadoor... Rs. 2,500
Maharajah Sorat Soondary... 2,000
Rajah Komul Krishna Bahadoor... 2,000
Maharajah Narendra Krishna Bahadoor... 1,000
Baboo Jodu Loll Mullick... 1,000
An Ex-student... 500
A poor Ex-student... 25
Subscriptions will be thankfully received by the undersigned and also by

The Hon'ble Kristo Doss Pal, C.I.E.
Baboo Romanath Law, Attorney, High Court.
The Editor of the Indian Mirror
Baboo Sreenath Ghose, Vice-Chairman, Calcutta Municipality
Baboo Bhryab Chunder Banerjee, Pleader, High Court.
Baboo Peary Mohan Banerjee, Calcutta Collectorate.
The Editor of the Bengalee.
CALCUTTA, }
Oriental Seminary. }
27th February, 1878. }
AUNOOF CHUND MITTER,
Honorary Secretary.

INDIAN FAMINE RELIEF FUND, 1877.

Amount already advertised Rs. 1,32,982 9 11
Per Dacca Relief Committee.

Baboo Mohini Mohan			
Dass ...	1,000	0	0
" Kaylash Chandra			
Ghose ...	5	0	0
Cuttack Relief Committee			
Depy. Commr. Sonthal			
Pergunnahs ...	806	0	0
Baboo Juttadhar Haldar,			
Howrah ...	5	0	0
Offg. Collr. of Shahabad			
Per Magistrate of Maldah.	945	10	0
Baboo Bhoju Mohan Rai,			
Zemindar of Hurrish-			
chandrappur ...	50	0	0
" Ananda Mohan Moi-			
tra, Zemindar ...	25	0	0
" Rajanikanta Das, Ze-			
mindar of Latcha-			
teamore ...	10	0	0
" Ramdoolab Day of			
Nababgunge ...	25	0	0
Srimoti Parbuti Chou-			
dhrani ...	20	0	0
Baboo Jogeswar Chatter-			
jee of Nobabgunge...	20	0	0
" Kristna Mohan Satiar			
of Maldah ...	10	0	0
" Kristna Mohan Das			
of ditto ...	10	0	0
" Kali Sunder Ghutak			
... ..	4	0	0
" Janki Nath Das ...	5	0	0
" Bhuban Mohan Shaha			
... ..	5	0	0
" Jogeswar Shaha ...	2	0	0
" Bistoo Das Sen ...	2	0	0
" Jibon Singh ...	2	0	0
" Iswar Shaha ...	2	0	0
" Ramlal Sen ...	2	0	0
	194	0	0
Less charges	1	2	0
	192	14	0
Per Magistrate of Rajshye	106	0	0
Less charges ...	1	4	0
Collected at Girdi, per As-			
sistnt. Commr. Pachamba			
Per Rungpore Relief Committee.			
Rai Ramani Mohan Chou-			
dhrury Bahadoor ...	50	0	0
Baboo Mohima Naryan			
Roy Chowdhury ...	50	0	0
Eshan Chunder Chou-			
dhrury ...	50	0	0
Shyam Sunduree Dabi			
and Brohmo Moyee			
Debi ...	25	0	0
Baboo Shuk Mull ...	10	0	0
Radharaman Mazumdar..	10	0	0

Nundo Lal Nundy ...	10	0	0
Mohesh Chundra Chou-			
dhrury ...	5	0	0
Netto Gopal Dey ...	5	0	0
J. T. Babonean, Esq. ...	4	0	0
Small Subscriptions col-			
lected by Baboo Kama-			
khyia Churn Mooker-			
jea ...	29	0	0
	248	0	0

Rs. 1,37,903 13 11

H. W. I. WOOD,
Hony. Treasurer.

Calcutta, 2nd March, 1878.

ESTATE J. C. MARSHMAN DECEASED.

For sale by private contract, either together or separately, two plots of land at Mohesh (Serampore) near the Bank of the river measuring 22 Beggahs 3½ Cattahs and 21 Beggahs respectively: on both plots there are numerous fruit trees, and on the first plot there is valuable timber.

Further particulars obtainable from Sanderson & Co., Solicitors Calcutta, or Eshan Chunder Mitter, Pleader Hooghly.

Notice.

The undersigned, who is leaving India at an early date, has, in order to secure a speedy sale, made arrangements to sell the remaining copies of the following books at greatly reduced rates, viz. :—

Eight Annas each.

TANNOCK'S STUDENTS COMPANION TO ENGLISH GRAMMAR; OR QUESTIONS ON GENERAL ENGLISH AND IDIOM, compiled from the Calendars of the Universities of Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay, from 1859 to 1875. With Supplement containing papers for 1876.

KEY TO THE ABOVE, by G. A. Lorimer, M. A. J. TANNOCK.

CALCUTTA THACKER, SPINK, & Co.
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Notice to applicants for an Estimator in the office of Superintendent of Works Northern Division N.B. State Railway.

The post has been filled up.

WILLIAM JAMES CARTER C.E.,
Superintendent of Works,
Saidpur 20th. February, 1878.

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IMPORTERS OF

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Lawn Mowing Machines.

16, 19, 22, 25, 30, 36, inch.
Rs. 195, 145, 165, 245, 310, 375 each.

CAN BE WORKED BY

A Boy, A Man, A Man and Boy, Donkey, Pony, Small Horse.

The above Lawn Mowers are manufactured to our express order, and are on the very best principle of construction.

Archimedian Lawn Mowers.

6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20 inch.

Rs. 18, 35, 55, 70, 85, 100, 125, 145, each.

The Archimedian Lawn Mower is a very handy and effective Machine, and preferred by some to a more expensive got-up article.

Garden Rollers.

Double Cylinder.

18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 32 inch.
Rs. 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 110, 200 each.

Galvanized Iron Wire Netting.

For training or protecting Flowers, making Fowl Houses, guarding Fish from Kites in exposed Aquariums, keeping Crows out of verandahs, and for many other similar purposes it will be found very suitable and cheap.

Mesh ½, ¾, 1, 1½, 1¾, 2 inch.

Rs. 2-6, 1-8, 1-2, 0-14, 0-10, 0-8, 0-8 p. yd. 2 ft. wd.

3-8, 2-4, 1-11, 1-5, 0-15, 0-12, 0-12, 3

Border for orrquet Ground, As. 12 per yard.

4-inch Galvanized Netting, 3 feet wide, As. 14 per yd.

Garden Watering Pots.

Painted Red or Green.

1, 1½, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12, 16, 20 qts.
Rs. 2, 2-4, 2-8, 3-8, 4, 5, 5-12, 6-12, 8-12 10-8 each.

Sets Gardening Tools.

Fitted with English B-h Handles, very nicely got up and suitable for Children, Ladies and Gentleman.

No. 0000, 000, 00, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

Rs. 2-4, 2-2, 3-8, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9-8, 13-8, 14, set.

Transplanting Tools, Rs. 4 0.

Edging Knives, Handled, Rs. 3-0 each.

Ten per cent. Discount off the above Prices for Cash.

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SUBSCRIPTION PRICE £52 PER £100 STOCK,

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£22 " " One month after the date for payment on Allotment.

£52 per £100 Stock.

The Letters of Allotment will, so soon as practicable after the Subscription Price has been paid be exchanged for the Certificates signed by delegates, of the Government and the Imperial Ottoman Bank.

THE IMPERIAL OTTOMAN BANK is instructed by the Imperial Ottoman Government to offer the above Loan for public subscription.

Subscriptions will be received on behalf of the Imperial Ottoman Bank by their correspondents in India the Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London and China at its several Branches at Bombay, Calcutta & Madras.

The rate of exchange at which subscriptions will be received in India has been fixed at 1s 10d per rupee.

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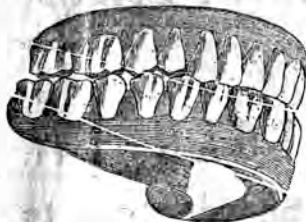
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Printed and published by WOOMESH CHUNDER NUNDI, at the HINDOO PATRIOT PRESS, No. 108, BARANUSY GHOSH'S STREET, CALCUTTA.